AN INTERIM REPORT AND RE-EXAMINATION OF THE PROBLEM OF YOUTH AND GANG VIOLENCE IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH

A REPORT TO THE CITY OF LONG BEACH MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

THE LONG BEACH HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

November 4, 2003

CITY OF LONG BEACH
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Chief of Police

September 17, 2003

Ron Arias
Director
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Dear Mr. Arias:

The Long Beach Police Department reviewed the Interim Report and Reexamination of the Problem of Youth and Gang Violence in the City of Long Beach, submitted by the Human Relations Commission. The Commission is to be commended for their efforts in addressing an extremely challenging problem. The report reflects the impact that violence among youth has on the quality of human relations in the city. The Commission's efforts to seek viable solutions will hopefully benefit the entire community.

Please contact me at extension 87301 if I can provide any additional information regarding this document.

Sincerely,

Anthony W. Batts

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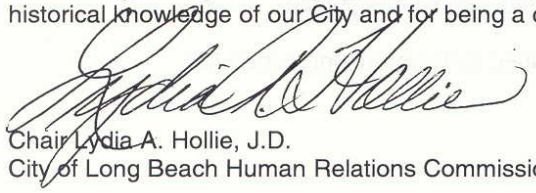
I am indebted to Commissioners Dona Syes-Ponepinto, Coqueece King and Rene Castro, MSW, Program Director, Greater Long Beach National Conference for Community and Justice, for unselfishly giving their valuable time to digest the volumes of documents, transcripts and notes to draft this report. This report could not have been written without them.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the City's staff for their valuable input, assistance during the conduct of the meetings and the drafting of this report, including, but not limited to, the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services personnel: Ron Arias, MPA, Director, Corinne Schneider, Bureau Manager, Erroll Parker, Community Services Supervisor, Serafina Sarimiento, Administrative Assistant; Nancy Muth, Deputy City Clerk; and Anitra Demspey, Coordinator, Human Dignity Program.

Also, special recognition goes to Dr. Karen Umemoto, Ph.D., University of Hawaii at Manoa, for allowing the Human Relations Commission to use her document entitled, "Planning for Peace: Developing a Strategic Response to Racial Violence (2002)," as the working framework for the preparation of this report.

I am profoundly grateful to Police Chief Anthony W. Batts and the exceptional staff of the Long Beach Police Department for responding to the Commission's request for information without which this report would be woefully inadequate.

Lastly, I would like to thank William Barnes, retired Executive Dean from Long Beach Community College and highly respected member of the community, for his wealth of historical knowledge of our City and for being a conduit from the past to the present.



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City of Long Beach Human Relations Commission

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements /1

Executive Summary /5

Section I: Introduction /9

Section II: Definition of Terms /10

Section III: History /11
- A. The history of the intergroup relations **/11**
- B. Previous efforts to address the problem and the subsequent results **/12**
- C. The history of the current problem **/13**

Section IV: Potential for Escalation and De-escalation of Conflict /16
- A. The relationship between parolees and the escalation and de-escalation of violence in the street **/17**
- B. The pattern and likelihood of retaliation **/18**
- C. The influence of the prevailing voices of division and reconciliation **/18**
- D. The motivations or disincentives for peace-building by the conflicting sides **/19**
- E. The indicators of escalating or diminishing tensions or conflicts **/20**
- F. The indicators that the community-at-large is prepared to diligently pursue and sustain peacemaking efforts **/20**
- G. Other institutional responses beyond law enforcement measures that would be reasonable to achieving solutions **/21**
- H. The commitment of political officials to addressing the problem and allocating adequate resources **/21**

Section V: Assessing the Affected Population /22
- A. The individuals and/or groups responsible for the problem, both directly and indirectly **/22**
- B. The individuals and groups needed in order to effectively improve the situation **/22**
- C. The opinions and interests of the various sectors of the population **/23**
- D. The history of relationships between certain categorical groups **/24**
- E. Possible consequences to continued status quo approaches **/25**

Section VI: Best Practices /26

Section VII: Inventory of Youth Services /26

A. Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Youth Services and Community-Based Service Providers **/26**
B. Implementation of Proposed Citywide Commission on Children and Youth **/27**
C. Long Beach Public Library Youth Services **/27**

Section VIII: Statistics /29

Section IX: City of Long Beach 2010 Strategic Plan /33

Section X: Recommendations /33

Section XI: Conclusion /35

Section XII: Appendices

Appendix A /A-1
Human Relations Commission's Final Report to the Mayor and City Council on Interracial Gang Violence, dated April 18, 1995.

Appendix B /B-2
A Chronological Summary of Commission Fact-Finding Meetings held between August 22, 2002 and February 13, 2003.

Appendix C /C-8
"Intercultural Gang Violence Report," Long Beach Police Department Memorandum to Human Relations Commission, dated May 9, 2003.

Appendix D /D-9
South Coast Ecumenical Council Racialized Gang Violence Questionnaire Response Summary February 19, 2003.

Appendix E /E-12
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Racialized Gang Violence Questionnaire Response Summary February 19, 2003.

Appendix F /F-14
"Choices for Youth Preventing Youth Violence Survey," conducted by CORAL Long Beach Youth Institute High School Students (2002).

Appendix G /G-15

Letter from Long Beach Coalition for the Prevention of Gun Violence, dated January 24, 2003.

Appendix H /H-16

City of Long Beach Census 2000 Demographic Profile by Council District.
City of Long Beach Median Incomes, 2002.
City of Long Beach Youth Population, 2002.
Crime and Census, a presentation to the Chief's Advisory Group Conference, Long Beach Police Academy, February 8, 2003, Deputy Chief Tim Jackman.

Appendix I /I-17

Inventory of Youth Services.

Appendix J /J-20

Proposed Commission on Children and Youth, and the Youth Advisory Council developed by Cynthia Fogg, Youth Services Superintendent, Parks, Recreation and Marine Department, dated November 1, 2002.

Appendix K /K-21

Examples of Targeted Actions (from the framework developed by Dr. Karen Umemoto, Ph.D., University of Hawaii at Manoa, entitled "Planning for Peace: Developing a Strategic Response Racial Violence," 2002).

References /R-25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Gang violence among our minors and young adults has resulted in a human deficit that is incalculable. For more than 20 years, the City of Long Beach has been grappling with this issue. However, the scope of this report is limited to 1995 through 2002. In April 1995, the Human Relations Commission (the "Commission") initially reported on interracial gang violence at the request of the City Council. In August 2002, the Commission began a re-examination of youth and gang violence. The Commission acknowledges and commends the vast majority of young people who have made healthy choices to fulfill their aspirations and dreams. On the other hand, the Commission also recognizes that there are many at-risk and troubled youth and young adults that have not been as fortunate in their efforts to live successfully in today's environment. While some progress has been made to address those concerns, the City has reached a point where a coordinated and comprehensive citywide approach must be undertaken to sustain our motto, "Diversity is Our Strength," especially in a climate where violence among our youth and young adult population has continued to take center stage.

Historically, intergroup relations have been tenuous. The extent that racial and ethnic intolerance exists among certain young people range from prejudice, bias, fear, mistrust, lack of awareness and understanding about cultural differences, poverty, high density housing, inadequate workforce skills, unavailability of jobs, inability to mediate disputes without violence, and generational links to teaching violence. The most current re-examination of this issue was undertaken over a seven-month period with a series of public meetings. Differing views regarding the causes and contributing factors for the continuing violence among our youth span across a spectrum: (1) That the violence is primarily motivated by race; (2) That race is factor in some cases, but not always a key ingredient in most cases; (3) That the violence is driven by social considerations, e.g., the inability to resolve conflict without guns or the use of force; or (4) That the violence is stimulated by economic motives, e.g., the drug trade and territorialism. Concerning economic motivations, the public overwhelmingly emphasized that gainful employment opportunities are an antidote for gangs and criminal activity. In view of the City's diversity and present challenges, the entire community must continue its vigilance to insure that increased racial and ethnic tensions do not rise to a sustained level of heightened conflict.

Although the Commission concurs with law enforcement that multiple factors influence the propensity for conflict, the public perceives the presence and availability of guns to be a major contributing factor for increased violence. The degree of attention taken to mitigate the impact that parolees have on the at-risk population is weighed against the influence on others to engage in illegal acts. Public testimony reported that younger offenders do not typically adhere to the advice given by reformed gang members against violent acts. However, law-abiding citizens have a right to expect and demand that conflicting sides reach an agreement to put their guns aside and resolve their differences without violence. It was also acknowledged that the skills needed to settle

disputes without conflict must be taught. Family and educational environments factor prominently in teaching these skills.

Indicators that the larger community has shown a heightened interest in peacemaking include, a positive shift in community attitudes toward greater involvement to achieve solutions, law enforcement's outreach efforts, relationships forged between the Commission and influential community leaders as well as key community based organizations, and the peace marches held in the Ninth and Sixth Districts, respectively, wherein over 1000 marchers participated in both events combined. These efforts have served to increase community awareness and foster a renewed commitment in the community to become more involved in the process of improving present conditions save at-risk young people from the harm caused by ongoing violence.

The following statistics make a compelling argument that the community-at-large stands at a crossroads and the time has come for the City to undertake bold initiatives that are designed to liberate the community from violence.

Minor and Young Adult Population

- 40% or 184,800 minors and young adults 0-24 years reside in Long Beach.
- 149,000 or 32% of the total City population are under age 19.
- 26% or 115,600 minors 0-14 years reside in Long Beach.

Likely Age of Incorrigibility

- Chronic juvenile offenders can be identified by age 13.
- Habitual truancy behavior begins by the second grade (ages 7-8 years).
- Prevention measures within the family unit and at the elementary level are critical to offsetting the likelihood of perpetuating youth violence.

Economic Factors

- 40,000 minors under 18 years live at or below federal poverty levels.
- 60,000 adults 18 years and over live at or below federal poverty levels.
- 14,000 single female head of household families with related children under 18 years live at or below federal poverty levels.
- 14,433 families have incomes based on public assistance, with a per capita of $19,000.
- 77,000 families have incomes below $35,000.
- Long Beach has a median income of $40,000.
- An antidote to gangs and criminal activity is workplace skill and gainful employment.

Elementary and Secondary School (K-12) Population

- 81% of the 97,000 students in the Long Beach Unified School District are minority.
- Approximately 4,000 students are enrolled at most of the local high schools.
- 45% of middle school students have been in fights.

- 11% of the students have brought weapons to school at any given time.

Guns

- Regionally, statewide and nationally in 2002, homicide is the leading cause of death for minors/young adults between 15 and 24 years.
- Youths indicated in a recent local survey that guns are easily accessible.
- The community and police share the belief that guns are settling arguments.

Gang Population and Victimization

- 31 of the 67 homicides were gang-related, inclusive of 15 gang-motivated incidents.
- Gang-related criminal activity is particularly acute among the 18-24 age group.
- There are 90 known gang names with 55 active, estimated and fluctuating organizations (inclusive of 29 non-native gang organizations), and 6,000 gang members across racial and ethnic lines.
- 1,232 gang affiliates/members were victims of violent gang-related crime between 1995 and 2002.
- 369 non-gang affiliates/members were victims of violent gang-related crime between 2000 through 2002.
- One gang-related homicide was successfully prosecuted under the hate crimes statute in 2002.

Parolee Population and Victimization

- Citywide, the current parolee population is 3,978.
- 15 gang-related homicides attributed to parolees between 1995 and 2002.
- Parolees appear to be an influencing agent among the younger offenders.

The time has come for the City to confront 20th century challenges with 21st century solutions. The future of the City's youth and young adults depends on an expedient, efficient, and effective response that can be sustained. The recommendations that follow are the first step in a long process to establish peace within our borders.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the budget challenges the City is facing, the recommendations below were crafted in a manner to utilize existing resources. However, a coordinator position is needed to sustain the work.

Given the tremendous complexity of this problem, it is the recommendation of the Human Relations Commission that an institutionalized response in the form of a comprehensive community-wide approach be undertaken to develop a strategic response to youth and gang violence.

It is the opinion of the Human Relations Commission that the responsibility to address the issue of violence among certain youth and young adults effectively lies within every

major sector of our community: faith community, educational institutions, local government, law enforcement, business and neighborhood organizations, community-based organizations and others. Moreover, this distinguished body must be committed and dedicated to achieving solutions that make sense for the City of Long Beach, taking into consideration our unique, highly diverse sociological landscape. To accomplish this daunting, but surmountable task, it is the recommendation of the Commission:

1. That the City convenes a citywide intervention task force representative of the major leadership sectors of the community: faith leaders, educational (elementary, secondary, community college and university) leaders, youth leaders, local government (including the City's Youth Library Services, Parks, Recreation and Marine Youth Services, and the Children and Youth Commission), law enforcement, business, neighborhood organizations and community based organizations (including the City's Youth Services NETWORK). Further, that this task force convene for a three-year period which will enable it to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of any and all subsequent recommendations to address youth and gang violence that will be forthcoming.

    a. That in partnership with the Human Dignity Program, the leadership base for this task force be formed with representatives from the Chief of Police's current Police Advisory Boards as a means of utilizing the City's existing infrastructure.

    b. That this task force immediately begins a campaign to get every sector of the community to identify and implement actions for general and targeted populations (See Appendix: K).

    c. That this task force consider utilizing the intervention framework developed by Dr. Karen Umemoto, Ph.D., University of Hawaii at Manoa, entitled "Planning for Peace: Developing a Strategic Response to Racial Violence, 2002," as a means to develop immediate and long term strategies to address this problem.

2. That the City utilizes the existing services of the Greater Long Beach National Conference for Community and Justice to facilitate the safe and productive communication of the Citywide intervention task force.

3. That the City Council implements the Commission on Children and Youth, and a Youth Advisory Council developed by Cynthia Fogg, Youth Services Superintendent, Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (See Appendix: J).

4. That the City utilizes the Human Dignity Program's Hate Crime Response Team to mediate racialized gang violence, and the Intergroup Conflict Resolution Team be used as resource to mediate intracultural or intercultural gang violence, as appropriate. In addition, that under the direction of the Human Dignity Program, the National Conference for Community and Justice train staff of the City's Gang

Intervention and Prevention Program (GIPP) as mediators to be used as a resource for effectuating resolution efforts via the Hate Crime Response Team or the Intergroup Conflict Resolution Team.

5. That the City Council develops a public educational awareness campaign (modeled after the anti-tobacco initiative campaign) to communicate anti-gang messages which de-glorifies and de-glamorizes violence through the promotion of positive character and community and social values, e.g., integrity, responsibility, accountability and respect. The City would work with community based organizations who serve the groups most affected by the violence to develop messages that are culturally and linguistically sensitive to the diverse population in the City, e.g., brochures, billboards, bus stop advertisements and multi-ethnic events.

6. That the City Council allows the Human Relations Commission to research and forward suggestions for the application of funding to offset the cost of some of the recommendations contained in this report.

7. That the City Council strengthens its relationship with ethnic community-based organizations, which serves those groups most disaffected by violence, through technical support and other meaningful measures that are mutually determined to increase the viability of their efforts.

SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

The Human Relations Commission believes that each and every person living, working or visiting Long Beach is valuable, important and necessary to the future vitality of the City. Since our youth and young adult population are essential to the City's future, they are equal to trade, technology and tourism as a central focus of municipal priorities.

The citizens of Long Beach are entitled to live with reasonable enjoyment, without fear, and to feel safe from undue harm. Their lives are to be respected and valued by the broader community. The City of Long Beach is enormously challenged by the prevailing problem of violence among certain youth and young adults throughout the City. While the current escalating deadly and debilitating conflict has impacted the African American, Asian and Hispanic communities, this issue is a citywide problem—each Council District has experienced this violence at varying degrees.

Over the past seven years between 1995 and 2002, the human deficit has grown immeasurably as a result of violent crime. This violence is no respecter of person and has ruined the lives of gang and non-gang members alike. For each tragic and untimely death of a youth or young adult, the potential that their lives represented is loss forever, leaving one less viable and contributing member of our community. And for survivors of the violence, the emotional, psychological and physical damage they have suffered are equally as devastating. We cannot ignore the affect that violence has on the perpetrators and their families as well. These families whose member has caused the

death or serious injury to another must live with the blame, embarrassment, and regret that such a grievous act causes. Needless to say, the severity of the toll that this senseless violence has had on the entire community is incalculable.

This report is written to provide the City Council with the most salient advice concerning the issue of violence among and between our youth and young adults, and to present thoughtful recommendations on how it may navigate its way to finding achievable solutions and lasting outcomes. The report contains an overview of past and current intergroup relations, community input, observations regarding the potential for the escalation and de-escalation of conflict, and an assessment of the affected population. The report also includes sections on statistics, best practices, an inventory of youth services, and reference to the City's 2010 Strategic Plan.

As a working document, this report is the first step in a long process to alleviate the enormous pressure to de-escalate, mitigate and some day eradicate youth and gang violence within our borders. The City's dual mottos, "Working Together to Serve," and "Diversity is Our Strength," were the guiding principles the Commission used to travel across the fragile terrain of our highly diverse community during the fact-finding process and in the preparation of this report. The Commission hopes that this report will encourage and motivate the community to utilize its collective intelligence, knowledge and wisdom to develop effective long-term solutions to this daunting challenge.

SECTION II: DEFINITION OF TERMS

Legal description of a "Minor": A person who does not have the legal rights of an adult. A minor is usually defined as someone who has not yet reached the age of majority [18 years] (Long Beach Police Department).

Legal description of an "Adult": In most states, a person reaches majority and acquires all of the rights and responsibilities of an adult when he or she turns 18 years (Long Beach Police Department).

Working definition of "Youth": For purposes of this report, "Youth" is defined as persons from age 13-17 years.

Working definition of "Young Adult": For purposes of this report, "Young Adult" is defined as persons from age 18-24 years.

Legal definition of a "Criminal Street Gang": California Penal Code Section 186.22(f) (1): A "Criminal Street Gang" is an ongoing organization, association or group, whether formal or informal, of three or more persons which has a common name or common identifying sign or symbol; (2) Having as one of its primary activities the commission of one or more of the following predicate acts: (a) Assault with a deadly weapon or by means likely to produce great bodily injury (GBI); (b) Robbery; (c) Unlawful homicide or manslaughter; (d) Sales or possession for sale of narcotics; (e) Shooting at an inhabited dwelling or car; (f) Shooting from a motor vehicle; (g) Arson;

(h) Witness intimidation; (i) Grand theft over $10,000; (j) Grand theft auto; (k) Burglary; (l) Rape; (m) Looting; (n) Money laundering; (o) Kidnapping; (p) Mayhem; (q) Aggravated mayhem; (r) Torture (Penal Code 206); (s) Felony extortion; (t) Felony vandalism; (u) Car jacking; (v) Sale of a firearm; (w) Possession of a concealed firearm by a minor; (3) Whose members individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of criminal activity (Long Beach Police Department).

Working definition of "Gang-related": For purposes of this report, "Gang-related" is defined as any criminal act or attempted criminal act, in whole or in part, committed by or involving a gang member (Long Beach Police Department).

Working definition of "Gang-motivated": For purposes of this report, "Gang-motivated" is defined as any criminal act or attempted criminal act, in whole or in part, motivated for the benefit of the criminal street gang organization (Long Beach Police Department).

Working definition of "Violent Crime": For purposes of this report, a "Violent Crime" includes, but it not limited to, unlawful homicide or manslaughter, assault by means likely to produce great bodily harm, assault with a deadly weapon, kidnapping, robbery, car jacking, arson, felony vandalism, or shooting at a car or inhabited dwelling (Long Beach Police Department).

Working definition of "Victim": For purposes of this report, a "Victim" is defined as any person who has been affected or harmed by any criminal act or attempted criminal act (Long Beach Police Department).

Definition of Hate Crime: A hate crime is defined as any criminal act or attempted criminal acts to cause physical injury, emotional suffering, or property damage where there is a reasonable cause to believe that the crime was motivated, in whole or in part, by the victim's race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, or national origin (California Penal Code Section 13023; Long Beach Human Dignity Policy).

SECTION III: HISTORY

A. *The History of Intergroup Relations*

Historically, intergroup relations in the City of Long Beach ('the City") have been tenuous. Prior to and during the 1960's, tensions ran high between Whites and African-American citizens over issues of housing, education, and economic and social equality. These tensions were not experienced in isolation of the civil rights movement but as a consequence of the City's struggle to become a more inclusive community.

The unrest at Polytechnic High School (resulting from racial hostilities at Poly after 35 African-American students were suspended from the track team) was a microcosm of the situation nationally. Reporter Charles Sutton, quoted Dr. Filmore Freeman of the

Long Beach NAACP chapter, “Long Beach is part of the nation, and Poly is part of Long Beach” (Independent Press Telegram, May 11, 1967). The height of this conflict culminated with the formation of an interracial group to examine these issues. Absent a City-based human relations commission, the services of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission were utilized to help establish that panel.

Over the next twenty years, Long Beach transformed into a more racially and ethnically diverse city, marked by increased immigration of Asians, Hispanics and Pacific Islanders. Unfortunately, the local communities were not equipped to accept or embrace the demographic changes as they occurred and, as a result, did not appear to value the diversity as it evolved. Consequently, continued tensions correlated with an increase of youth gangs, often organized along racial or ethnic lines. Initially, the conflict focused on the protection of territory or neighborhood.

While gangs involving youth and young adults have existed for several decades, it was not until the late 1970’s and the advent of the drug trade that the conflict among gangs proliferated into deadly forms of violence with the easy accessibility of guns. Since the 1980’s to the present, serious gang violence has been an established lifestyle in Long Beach. This lifestyle has and continues to devastate families, neighborhoods and the community as a whole.

The scope of the conflict that underlines the racial and ethnic intolerance among certain youth and young adults covers a wide range of issues that still exists today, e.g., prejudice, bias, stereotypes, racial hatred, fear, mistrust, lack of understanding of different cultures, poverty, high density housing, alienation, marginalization, lack of employment, disempowerment, and the lack of proper social tools (such as, mediation and co nflict resolution skills) to respond adequately to rapid demographic changes.

In 1989, the Long Beach Human Relations Commission (the “Commission”) was established to serve in an advisory capacity to provide a forum where the citizens of goodwill in our City can unite in harmony to dialogue about those issues that concern them and recommend to the City Council effective ways in which those needs may be met (Municipal Ordinance No. C-6570, dated February 23, 1989).

B. ***Previous Efforts to Address the Problem and the Results of Those Efforts***

By the mid-90’s, the City experienced a period of gang violence that took its toll on the community. Following the deaths of three Hispanic youth in May 1994, gang violence in Long Beach substantially increased. The City Council referred the matter to the Commission for recommendations on how to best address the issue of gang violence. The Commission held several public meetings wherein members of the community, experts and lay people, and representatives from local, state and federal government met and discussed the issue in depth. By June 1994, an interim report was submitted to and adopted by the City Council. It contained two recommendations: (1) Adopt the report as an informational document; and (2) implement emergency youth related programs in the areas of recreation, counseling and summer employment.

In April 1995, the final report on interracial gang violence was submitted to the City Council. After nearly a year of meetings, public forums and discussions with all the sectors of the City, the Commission "learned that race is rarely the key ingredient that sparks the violence amongst gangs," and the report "therefore, addresses youth violence as a general topic and does not focus on race."

The report contained the following six general recommendations: (1) Establish a clearinghouse where information on the availability of services are provided, (2) Develop comprehensive strategies to decrease violence, (3) Support the efforts of a youth services network and promote collaborative efforts that handle gang violence, and officially integrate youth in civic life through various youth-related boards and commissions, (4) Support youth programmatic activities that teach cultural respect and tolerance, (5) Promote the contributions of youth through media outlets, and (6) Encourage greater parental involvement with youth and other violence prevention programs (See Appendix A: Final Report to Mayor and City Council on Interracial Gang Violence, dated April 18, 1995).

C. ***The History of the Current Problem***

At its regular meeting on August 8, 2002, the Long Beach Human Relations Commission initiated a re-examination of its previous report to the City Council on Interracial Gang Violence, dated April 18, 1995. An article entitled, "Turf Battle Turns Deadly," published by the Long Beach Press Telegram on July 22, 2002, prompted the review. Writers Kristopher Hanson and Paul Young described the escalation of violence between African-American and Hispanic youth generally throughout Los Angeles County and specifically in Long Beach. At the time of that publication, 23 gang-related incidents had occurred, of which 17 involved African-American and Hispanic youth. Four of these incidents resulted in homicides. Based on these startling and devastating statistics, the Commission launched a series of meetings and community forums to shed light on this trend and reach consensus on the best practices to mitigate the escalation of violence among certain youth and young adults. The timeliness of the Commission's review was subsequently confirmed in an August 29, 2002 editorial entitled, "Fighting Gang Terrorism," wherein the Press Telegram reported a total of 70 gang-related shootings and 18 homicides and called for proactive and effective measures to stop the bloodshed.

A chronological summary of Commission fact-finding meetings held between August 22, 2002 and February 13, 2003 is incorporated by reference as Appendix: B. Over a seven-month period, the Commission heard from key representatives and other stakeholders from various sectors of the community. The public offered the following noteworthy comments and testimony:

- The City is diverse, but has not embraced this diversity; first, we must transform ourselves; next, transform each other; then, we will transform our community. Our children are looking for someone who truly cares about them and to show

them how to make a quality difference in their lives (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- Differing views regarding the causes and contributing factors for the continuing violence among our youth span across a spectrum: (1) That the violence is primarily motivated by race; (2) That race is a factor in some cases, but not a prevailing ingredient in all cases; (3) That the violence is driven by social considerations, e.g., the inability to resolve conflict without guns or the use of force; or (4) That the violence is stimulated by economic motives, e.g., the drug trade and territorialism (Public forums on August 22, 2002, October 5, 2003, February 23, 2003, and several meetings with Long Beach Police Department, 2003).

- The violence extends beyond the perimeters of race and culture (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- Jobs are an antidote for gangs and criminal activity (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- The outlook for youth employment has been bleak with the availability of only 100 City youth jobs in the summer of 2003 (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- The business community must exert a stronger effort to train young people for available employment opportunities (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- Gang violence has escalated throughout Los Angeles County and California (Public forum on September 12, 2002).

- The public's perceived "war" involving African-American and Hispanic youth stems from adult prisons, contaminates the youth authority and the juvenile halls, and then flows into the neighborhoods (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- The interlocking components to effectuating long-term achievable outcomes are prevention, intervention, suppression and restoration (Public forum on September 12, 2002).

- There is a public perception that the urban areas in Long Beach have been largely ignored (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- There is a public perception that the life of ethnic minority youth is valued less than the life of a non-minority youth; and that the problem lies west of Redondo Avenue and is predominated by ethnic minority youth as victims and perpetrators (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- There is a public perception that the high homicide rates have been tolerated over the many years by the community-at-large because this crisis does not involve non-minority youth (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- There is a public perception that finding solutions does not rise to a heightened level of awareness to seek measures beyond police suppression and incarceration because the crisis involves ethnic minority youth (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- Violence has a profound psychological and lasting impact on the families of slain youth, families of perpetrators, their neighborhoods and the entire City (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- There is a strong relationship between the City and the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) to counteract youth violence in the schools and on the streets (Human Relations Commission's Strategic Planning Session on October 5, 2002).

- There is a general belief that youth feel safer at school than walking to and from school (Human Relations Commission's Strategic Planning Session on October 5, 2002).

- Prevention measures at the elementary, middle and high school levels are key to combating youth violence; truancy habits begin at age 7 (Human Relations Commission's Strategic Planning Session on October 5, 2002).

- Marketable skill development in vocational training and Job Corps is a significant response to gang violence (Human Relations Commission's Strategic Planning Session on October 5, 2002).

- Violence is a learned behavior. There appears to be a generational link to gang violence. Adult gang members who recruit youth into gangs or delinquency must be held accountable (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- Approximately, 13,000 students have received student-centered services at the LBUSD Truancy Center, e.g., counseling, positive character development, and assistance with academic needs (Human Relations Commission's Strategic Planning Session on October 5, 2002).

- Juvenile offenders favorably respond to art and writing as a creative outlet (Public forum on October 5, 2003).

- Not only peers groups, but some parents and family members also promote division and racial hatred to their youth. Parent education and parent mentoring

are essential elements to improving the family and neighborhood environments (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- Public comment suggested the development of a framework for a comprehensive intervention strategy to address gang violence and its racialized elements (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- Public comment suggested the development of a Citywide youth commission to integrate youth into civic life and to build community stakeholders (Public forum on December 12, 2002).

- Use the approach implemented by the anti-tobacco initiative as a method of instituting anti-gang messages to redirect behavior toward more productive goals (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- Residents that live in diverse neighborhoods and high-density housing face chronic challenges to developing harmonious relationships (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- An example of a life-skills development program for reformed gang members currently operating in the City, Amer-I-Can Foundation for Social Change operates in 28 states and builds positive character through a systematic curriculum and behavior modification techniques, requiring participants to undergo 60 hours of instruction (Public forum on January 9, 2003).

- Public comment suggested a cost-benefit analysis of prevention and intervention measures that considers the cost-savings of taxpayer revenue for every child that is rescued from a gang (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

- The ethnic minority community based organizations expressed the belief that the City needs to take an active role in supporting their efforts to provide quality service to those groups most affected by the violence. Ethnic coalitions are necessary to develop multi-cultural approaches (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

SECTION IV: POTENTIAL FOR ESCALATION AND DE-ESCALATION OF CONFLICT

The potential for escalation and de-escalation of conflict among or between youth and young adult offenders is contingent upon whether this issue is being considered a matter of urgency that necessitates a total mobilization of the community's collaborative efforts to institute measurable and sustainable outcomes designed to alleviate the hardship created by gang violence. Although the Commission concurs with law enforcement's view that since multiple factors influence behavior predicting future activity is difficult, the public perceives that the potential for violence is particularly acute with the presence and easy availability of guns on the street as well as longstanding

unabated challenges, e.g., the criminal attitude, pattern and practice that exist within a street gang organization, racial animosity, social integration, and the lack of educational achievement, workforce development, and meaningful economic opportunity. Law enforcement addresses the de-escalation of conflict through suppression, arrest and incarceration of dominant gang members (See Appendix C: Long Beach Police Department Memorandum, dated May 9, 2003). Most importantly, based on public testimony and related newspaper accounts, it appears that the community recognizes it must become more assertive and coordinate its efforts to mitigate conflict and sustain neighborhood peace beyond traditional law enforcement measures.

In addition, there was heightened concern in the community about the pending State-mandated High School Exit Examination as a condition for graduation initially scheduled for 2004. Both the Press Telegram (Hanigan, I., "The Miseducation of L.B.," February 27, 2003) and the Los Angeles Times (Ragland, I. and Hayasaki, E., "State Exit Exam Get Poor Grades," March 4, 2003) published articles that have raised awareness of this issue. A variable that cannot be ignored are the reactions of those students who fail to obtain a diploma and believe their only remaining decisions are limited to dilemmas. What options, if any, will be in place as an alternative to dropping out and giving up altogether for those students who do not pass the high school exit exam? Will these students continue their education through adult school? Or will they simply resign themselves to failure and eliminate any opportunity for personal development? What employment opportunities would be afforded to a student under these circumstances? How certain students respond to this new requirement, if they must transition from high school without a diploma, remains to be seen. The community-at-large must be prepared to respond appropriately to the local needs of those graduates who will be adversely affected by this State policy.

A. ***The Relationship Between Parolees and the Escalation and De-escalation of Violence on the Street***

The Long Beach Police Department reported that 3,978 parolees were released or resided across Council Districts. Many parolees who are released to our neighborhoods are not residents of this City. 425 are reported to have no known address but are listed as residents. According to public testimony, parolees play a significant role in the escalation of violence under the direction of prison gang leaders. However, law enforcement finds the role of parolees in some cases to be significant, but not prevalent in most cases. Contrary to public perception, data indicated that only 15 parolees were involved in gang-related homicides between 1995 and 2002. (See Appendix C: Long Beach Police Department Memorandum, 2003).

Nevertheless, as a measure of further minimizing the actual or potential role parolees may have in the escalation of violence at any level, it was the public's belief that continued attention must be directed to those parolees who are released into our neighborhoods and are determined to carry out nefarious objectives calculated to exacerbate tension and conflict between our youth and young adults. Public testimony also indicated that the degree of attention taken to mitigate the impact that parolees

have on our at-risk population is a matter that must be weighed against the threat or potential threat they hold to influence others to engage in illegal acts.

B. ***The Pattern and Likelihood of Retaliation***

The pattern of retaliation is linked to acts of violent incidents that occur involving any of the respective gangs. Each time a particular gang experiences a violent act, eventually a corresponding action is taken by similar or greater means, resulting either in the death or injury of another. According to law enforcement, incidents of retaliation are sporadic which makes the likelihood of retaliation difficult to quantify. These incidents must be evaluated on an individual basis. Law enforcement indicated that retaliation is manifested verbally, physically or violently, and is often averted due to successful apprehension and increased post incident suppression efforts (See Appendix C: Long Beach Police Department Memorandum, 2003).

Previously published statements made by reformed gang members expressed serious concern about the present state of violence among youth. Their heightened concern indicated a glimmer of hope that the attitudes of some former gang members were changing for the better. Participants in the Gang Intervention Prevention Program (known as GIPP) called for a "…public declaration for peace in the street," (Manzer, T., "Group Meets on Gang Violence," Press Telegram, February 22, 2003). Unfortunately, public testimony reported that older, former gang members are not necessarily held in high enough esteem for younger gang members to acknowledge and heed the advice given against violent, unproductive behavior. The Commission believes that the challenge of reconciling these two views is an area that is ripe for active and sustained community involvement.

C. ***The Influence of the Prevailing Voices of Division and Reconciliation***

Law enforcement indicated that reconciliation is not the preferred choice by street gangs to conflict resolution and is perceived as a weakness by the conflicting sides (See Appendix C: Long Beach Police Department Memorandum, 2003). And while the voice of division has been heard through incidents of continued acts of violence on the street, the Press Telegram reported that GIPP members have been involved in monthly dialogues. This group has strongly advocated for peace in the impacted neighborhoods so that other children, including their own, will not be faced with destructive lifestyle choices. (Manzer, T., "Ex-'Bangers' Target Violence," September 7, 2002). Another voice of reconciliation was found in the testimony from the founder of Amer-I-Can Foundation of Social Change, regarding the positive impact that its 60 hours of intensive curriculum instruction has had on the character development of its graduates who had reformed their lives to become productive citizens. The Press Telegram has acknowledged the best practices performed by this organization through editorial and news articles. These voices of reconciliation are a hopeful sign that there is movement toward decreased hostilities, but whether they will resonate with influence among this current generation of offenders remains to be seen.

Moreover, the conflicting sides possess the ability to maintain their respective positions as long as the conditions leading to their habitual behavior remain unchanged. Law enforcement has indicated that an important consideration is the current level of criminal activity or adversarial hostility with other gangs. In addition, the Commission holds the view that the apparent the lack of consistent parental supervision and involvement, the inability to mediate disputes, the lack of meaningful extracurricular activities for non-athletes and non-scholars, the availability of guns, racial animosity, the drug trade, new gangs moving into the City, and the benign tolerance and inconsistent response to these issues by the community-at-large, pose no threat to those who are determined to take advantage of these factors for economic and social gain.

D. ***The Motivations or Disincentives for Peace-Building by the Conflicting Sides***

The extrinsic motivations for peace-building by the conflicting sides are embedded in the community's willingness to support any and all efforts to establish peace in the City. Furthermore, all law-abiding citizens have a right to expect and demand that the conflicting sides reach an agreement to lay down their weapons and resolve their differences without conflict leading to violence. As long as the conflicting sides are actively engaged in peacemaking efforts, the community will continue to contribute to those efforts by providing technical mediation support, safe meeting locations for dialogues or incorporating these youth and young adults into more productive community life.

The likely resistance to peacemaking and peace-building by conflicting sides may include, but not limited to, feelings of hopelessness, coupled with the inability to rise above their present circumstances; meaningful parental involvement; failure to value a conflict-free environment; living at or below the federal poverty levels and having little or no economic opportunities; the lack of marketable vocational skills; the lack of academic ability and scholastic achievement to be successful at the collegiate level; as well as marginalization and the feeling that they are not apart of civic life in a meaningful way. Furthermore, disincentives to peace-building may be reflected in the lives of those youth and young adults who are passionate in their hatred toward others and resist any opportunity to reform their thinking. In addition, there are others whose incorrigible behavior appears to exhibit the belief that there is profit in criminal activity, and they are strictly driven by an economic motive at the risk of a quality life for themselves, their families and the neighborhoods in which they live.

Lastly, absent a willingness on the part of the conflicting sides to participate in peace-building efforts, law enforcement will continue to impose those measures that are necessary to establish and maintain law and order on the streets. As greater numbers of youth and young adults involved in gangs are apprehended and prosecuted, they will receive longer and more severe sentencing. If certain youth and young adults are unwilling to reasonably respond to the efforts undertaken by the community to shape their lives in a positive and productive way, then failure to learn life lessons about fundamental values concerning right and wrong will continue to have a devastating impact on these individuals, their families and their neighborhoods.

E. ***The Indicators of Escalating or Diminishing Tensions or Conflicts***

By the end of December 2002, violent crime had not abated with 31 of the 67 homicides attributed to gang-related activity, inclusive of 15 gang-motivated incidents (Long Beach Police Department Memorandum, 2003). Based on youth who provided testimony, there are indications that groups are mobilizing on contending sides because of the heightened tensions at various high school campuses (Public forum on November 14, 2002). In addition, adult speakers stated that gangs from Los Angeles have come to Long Beach and are contributing to the escalating violence on the street (Public forum on February 13, 2003).

Another indicator of escalating conflict came from a newspaper report concerning a rash of 11 gang-related shootings, including two homicides that occurred between April 12 and April 22, 2003. The youngest victim was a third-grader. However, the City's expedient response resulted in 108 felony and misdemeanor arrests, and the confiscation of six guns (Young, P. and Manzer, T., "Shooting Probe Nets 108 Arrests," Press Telegram, April 23, 2003).

F. ***The Indicators that the Community-at-Large is Prepared to Diligently Pursue and Sustain Peacemaking Efforts***

Some indicators that the larger community has demonstrated a strong interest in peacemaking efforts are represented by the relationships forged between the Human Relations Commission and the South Coast Ecumenical Council, the Long Beach Ministerial Alliance, Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, Long Beach Unified School District Alternative Schools, Long Beach Public Safety Advisory Commission, Long Beach Coalition for the Prevention of Gun Violence, as well as various community-based organizations and other influential community leaders to work together to pursue and sustain peace in the City.

Most notably, the Commission has recognized a shift in the community's attitude about their role in the peacemaking process. Much credit must be given to law enforcement for prompting a change in community attitudes about this issue over the past several months. An example of community interest was exhibited by the September 2002 peace march launched in the Ninth District and organized by the Long Beach Police Department, clergy leadership, and community members with over 1000 marchers. In addition, a march in November 2002, which celebrated American diversity in the Sixth District, and called upon the residents to actively address the tension and conflict among youth as well as other diversity issues. The Police Department's high visibility and outreach at a variety of community events and forums has led to a growing realization youth and gang violence cannot be resolved without viable, ongoing community support.

G. ***Other Institutional Responses Beyond Law Enforcement Measures that would be Reasonable to Achieving Solutions***

As an institutional response, the Commission strongly advocates for the formation of a community-wide collaborative consisting of every sector of the City, including rehabilitated gang members and other youth as reasonable and appropriate. The group would form to develop a comprehensive multi-year strategic plan of action to circumvent the potential of violence and to build and sustain people in the community. This group would be accountable to the City for desired outcomes.

Secondly, the community-at-large must be willing to establish community norms for appropriate behavior and be willing to instill these values through media outlets and other means to break the cycle of confrontation and incivility. Positive human interaction must be taught and repeatedly reinforced until the desired behavior becomes automatic. Promoting a code of conduct that empowers people with the tools they need to successfully establish better human relations would serve to reconfigure the sociological landscape toward making diversity work in our City in the future.

In addition, community efforts would also include promoting positive family interaction (e.g., effective parental education and mentoring), addressing generational issues of violence, mental health issues (e.g., the impact that violence induced trauma has on young people), conflict mediation skill development, workforce development and economic opportunities, and (as law enforcement has suggested) taking another look at the options afforded to at-risk youth in the educational system.

Lastly, publicizing the good work and consistent efforts by youth and others who are performing Herculean tasks to make a qualitative difference for all citizens in the City must be recognized on a regular basis. For example, public acknowledgment of intergenerational relationships forged between seniors and youth, or seniors and parents, is a way of building bridges of respect and passing on the wealth of life-knowledge that our veteran citizens have to offer. The various mainstream and community based media outlets are major elements that can strengthen communication links across cultural boundaries, thereby helping our citizens develop a greater appreciation for the value of diversity in our community.

H. ***The Commitment of Political Officials to Addressing the Problem and Allocating Adequate Resources***

The Commission recognizes that over the past seven years, the City has committed extensive staff time and resources to address youth and gang violence. Numerous youth services, a workforce development agency, and partnerships with the Long Beach Unified School District and various community-based organizations, have been established to respond to the multiple needs of our youth and young adult population. During the Commission's current re-examination of this issue, Commission members contacted their respective Council representatives for input. Also, various Council and State legislative staff members attended the meetings over the past several months. Based on the interest and attention extended by the City Council and its staff, the Commission has confidence in civic leadership's ongoing commitment to addressing the problem directly and allocating adequate resources as they become available.

SECTION V: ASSESSING THE AFFECTED POPULATION

A. *The Individuals and/or Groups Responsible for the Problem, both Directly and Indirectly*

Based on testimonials from the community and reports given by law enforcement, gang affiliates/members (n=estimated at 6,000) are responsible for the much of the violence. Given the sheer number of gang members and parolees (n=3978) fluctuating or residing in the City, there exists a tremendous opportunity for both groups to play a pivotal role in influencing and exacerbating the problem without sustained intervention by the community and other authorities. Moreover, there is a public perception that racialized violence between street gang organizations has been a factor in the long history of gang violence in Long Beach. In the late eighties, it was violence between Asians, Hispanics and African-Americans. During the mid-nineties crime escalated between the Asian and Hispanic gangs. Presently, gang-related conflict has intensified between Hispanic and African-American youth and young adults. Testimonials from ex-gang members state that prisons are training grounds for breeding hatred, discontentment and nefarious activities.

In addition to the populations listed above, youth testimonials focused on the lack of support from the schools, especially some teachers. Some felt that schools were not doing enough to protect students. For example, the message was conveyed from the youth that some teachers would stand around and watch fights start until they became nearly out of control before attempting to stop them. Testimony from school district representatives acknowledged the difficulties that many students face and identified various programs and activities that are in placed to effectively respond to student concerns.

B. *The Individuals and Groups Needed In Order to Effectively Improve the Situation*

- Gang Members and Former Gang Members
- Families with School Age Children
- Elementary and Secondary School Administrators, Teachers and Classified staff
- Police Department and Other Law Enforcement Agencies – Gang units, Police Advisory Groups, Parole/Probation Departments
- School District – Teachers and administrators, Parent-Teacher Associations, and High School Parent Booster Clubs
- Neighborhood Associations
- Victim Population
- Organizations such as, NCCJ, Human Dignity Program and other programs that can provide support services.
- Faith/Ecumenical Communities
- Community-Based Organizations, including non-profits and seniors

- Business Organizations
- Service Organizations
- Mental Health Agencies
- University and Community College Academia
- Human Dignity Program
- Youth Services, including Parks and Recreation, and the Public Library
- Media

C. ***The Opinions and Interests of the Various Sectors of the Population***

- The Long Beach Police Department holds the view that based on its data, the racialized component is a factor in some cases, but not always a key element underlying the motivations to violence.

- With the absence of skills in the peaceful resolution of disputes, "guns settle arguments," according to the Long Beach Police Department.

- The Long Beach Police Department strongly emphasizes the critical and integral role of the family as the primary socializing agent for our young people. Parents need greater educational awareness and skill development on how to do a better job in raising their children.

- "Perceived Need by High School Students" – an unpublished survey conducted by graduate students from California State University, Long Beach (2001) found that 94% of students surveyed (subject pool=123) felt that students who "learn about differences in races, cultures and backgrounds reduce their potential for thoughts or feelings of prejudice".

- Safety is a major issue for youth. Getting to and from school is dangerous for many of our community's youth. The moment they are off school grounds they become a potential target for violence. Youth that attended the various Human Relations Commission forums stated that there is need for more people to volunteer at the schools in particular after school to ensure their safety. In addition, they felt that the schools could do more to protect them as well.

- When several youth were asked what were their goals in life, most of them had as **a number one goal – to stay alive.**

- Regarding the issue of after school programs, though there are programs available, again, it comes down to safety for many students. Do you stay after school and risk having to catch a bus or walk home in the dark?
- In a survey recently conducted by the City of Long Beach, 86% of the residents stated that gang violence was a key problem. However, they ranked youth programs such as, the national award winning mobile recreation program and

skate park, as a low priority according to a former council member in Long Beach.

- Victims of gang violence are often innocent victims who are "in the wrong area at the wrong time," according to public testimony. Support from the police and for the police is mixed; sometimes no one is charged with the crime and there are no witnesses or no one wants to come forward fearing retaliation.

- According to law enforcement, criminal street gang cases are the most challenging and difficult to investigate because victims and other potential witnesses fear retaliation.

- There is a public perception that Black on Black crime is not important.

- There needs to be an enhanced partnership between community-based organizations, City government, and schools to create safe communities.

- There is a need for more parent and/or adult involvement in youth's lives. There needs to be on-going communication to get parents involved so that they become more aware of the issues youth face everyday which includes sometimes just simply getting from home to school and back safely.

- South Coast Ecumenical Council, Racialized Gang Violence Questionnaire, Response Summary February 19, 2003 (See Appendix: D).

- Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, Racialized Gang Violence Questionnaire, Response Summary February 19, 2003 (See Appendix: E).

D. ***The History of Relationships Between Certain Categorical Groups***

- *Participants in the violence – direct and indirect participants*
- *Population connected to Participants – families and friends*
- *Victim Population – direct victim, families and members of the victimized target group*
- *General Population – public and private sector, politicians, businesses, religious institutions, national or regional network*

Based on the testimonials, the history between the groups is such that sometimes the participants in the violence and victims are from the same family. It is clear that all families suffer whether it is a family member that has participated in the violence or a family member that is a target of the violence.

All of the individuals that shared their personal stories about the impact of violence in their lives felt that there was a need for on-going awareness of the problem not just with

the participants of the crimes or the victims or potential victims, but in the entire community.

There was a clear message that families need support and guidance in being able to deal with children that may be involved in violent activities. There is also need for parent awareness so that parents know how to help their children stay out of unhealthy activities that may lead to violence.

Service providers felt that there was an ongoing need to collaborate together to provide services and to just be in touch with the needs of your community which may mean making their organization a "safe haven" for youth to just hang out. Youth definitely need to be able to participate in activities to which they can arrive and return home safely.

E. ***Possible Consequences to Continued Status Quo Approaches***

According to recent literature, the consequences of not responding or continuing to respond with "business as usual approaches" will not only result in continued homicides, but also the potential for community-wide escalation. In an article entitled, "Avoiding Racial Conflict: A Guide for Municipalities," (2001) (http://www.Stopthehate.org), three community dynamics are illustrated as increasing a community's risk for civil disorder:

Community Dynamics 1: Perceived Disparity of Treatment

The first community dynamic is a perception that severe inequities exist in certain areas of social structure. Manifestations of this include: a) a minority group which believes that its rights are being neglected or violated, b) non-minorities who perceive that minorities have received social benefits at their expense, and c) hate groups that press for their superiority over other groups or races.

Community Dynamic 2: Lack of Confidence in Redress Systems

The second community dynamic is the lack of group confidence in the interest or capability of government and other institutions to provide redress or grievances. If a group believes its rights are being abridged, the expected response from government is a critical factor in how the grievance is resolved. The perception that government or other institutions are unwilling or unable to respond effectively to the complaint aggravates the tension level.

Community Dynamic 3: Triggering Incidents

The third community dynamic is a triggering incident that refers to a tension-heightening event that catalyzes discontent and turns it into civil disorder. "When one or both community dynamics indicate that a high level of tension exists, a volatile atmosphere marked by frustration and anger may develop. Common to this kind of environment are displays of antagonism, acts of exclusion, and displays and lack of respect for a

particular race or group(s) of people that, in time, include instances of physical confrontation. These public displays of superiority, antagonism, and sometimes confrontation are tension-breeding incidents with the potential of becoming triggering incidents, since any one of them is capable of sparking social disorder," (http://www.Stopthehate.org).

SECTION VI: BEST PRACTICES:

The literature on violence prevention and intervention offers a number of useful models for the City to consider; the vast majority recommends broad partnerships that maximize the resources of each sector through synergy and collaborative problem solving. Some of the themes emphasized in the literature include the following:

- Partnerships that include family, peers, faith communities, workforce development, and the media;
- Prevention/intervention programs at all grade levels K-12. Programs that meet the developmental needs of students.
- Program content that promotes personal and social skills.
- Interactive teaching techniques.
- Ethnic identity/culturally sensitive material matched to the needs of the target population.
- Teacher training and staff development that ensures fidelity to the program.
- Activities that promote a positive school climate.
- Activities that model and foster norms against violence, aggression and bullying. Journal of School Health (1997), cited on the Alameda County Office of Education, homepage, online, 2002.
- "The best policies encourage collaboration between states and communities and between schools, law enforcement agencies, mental health, and children and family services." Fairchild, M., and Bell, J.D. (1999), "School Violence: Lessons Learned," National Conference of State Legislatures Magazine, (2000) **(**http://www.ncsl.org).

SECTION VII: INVENTORY OF YOUTH SERVICES

A. *Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Youth Services and Community-Based Service Providers*

The Commission recognizes and commends the City of Long Beach and its staff for its diligence in serving the needs of youth in an assortment of areas that cater to the development of the whole person. The City has a myriad of services it provides to accommodate the academic, extracurricular, artistic, physical and social needs of our youth. This City has been endowed with a host of volunteers and City staff that have committed their lives to helping our young people develop and thrive into productive citizens and stakeholders in the community. The care and concern that Long Beach has for its youth is exemplified by the vast resources which are available to young

people. Lastly, incorporated herein is an inventory of resources, while not exhaustive, catalogues the variety of ongoing youth and young adult related activities and programs offered by the City and community-based organization service providers (See Appendix: I).

B. ***Implementation of Proposed Citywide Commission on Children and Youth***

During an interview with Cynthia Fogg, Youth Services Coordinator, the Commission learned that she prepared a document that articulated the rationale for the development of a three-part framework designed to address the needs of youth as well as elevate and integrate the role of youth at an institutional level with the establishment of (1) a Commission on Children and Youth, (2) a Youth Advisory Council, and (3) a Youth Services NETWORK. According to Ms. Fogg, this proposed youth commission will be composed of adults, and the advisory council will consist of youth representing each district, with one voting member sitting on the adult commission, in addition to the continued coordination and facilitation of the Citywide Youth Services NETWORK as well as related services and supports (See Appendix: J).

However, of the three elements contained in the framework, only the Long Beach Youth Services NETWORK was implemented. Currently, the NETWORK has grown to more than 250 member nonprofit service providers that offer a variety of youth and family-based services, programs and activities. The Youth Services NETWORK meets monthly and acts as a coordinating body for services for all Long Beach youth, and is maintained by the Youth Services Division of the Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine. The Commission believes that the remaining elements of the framework, which call for a Citywide Commission on Children and Youth as well as a Youth Advisory Council, would establish youth as a co-partner and stakeholder in the civic affairs of our fine City, and put in effect the City's long-term strategic objective to formulate a Citywide youth commission. ("Our Children and Schools, Goal 1, Objective 1," (2001) City of Long Beach Strategic Plan 2010, page 14).

C. ***Long Beach Public Library Youth Services***

Christine Burcham, Youth Services Officer and Coordinator, was also interviewed and provided important information about youth services that are offered by the Long Beach Public Library system Citywide. In response to the Long Beach Community SCAN Survey during the late nineties, the Main Library established several innovative programs to help meet the needs of older teens who wanted to mentor younger teens, as well as initiate services that are relevant to their needs. As a corollary, the Library staff is sensitive to the growth in our youth population as well as a change in demographics. They have sought to meet the needs of this growing population in several ways.

Using the City of Long Beach 2010 Strategic Plan as a working framework, several programs and activities have been implemented to attract new participants. For example, there are book discussions groups, occasional special interest programs

(Evaluating Internet Sources, Self-Defense, Hemp Bracelet Making, Henna Body Art), and a safe place for homework. To complement its overall outreach efforts during non-school hours, the Library's strategic plan proposes to expand the number of programs and target resources for young people, as a means of channeling energies in a structured, positive environment. Grants will be solicited to fulfill this objective. This year, the Summer Reading Program will be updated from previous years to make the programs more relevant to teens.

Budget enhancements had enabled the Library to expand its menu of services to all youth (including collections targeting teens) as well as extend hours of availability from five days to six days. Currently, the Library offers specialized teen services at the following branches: Main, North, Burnett and El Dorado. However, the present budget deficient will result in a possible rollback of these highly successfully efforts.

Over the last three years, the collections devoted to the youth readership have been widely circulated:

- There are 65,000 children library cardholders.
- There are 20,000 teenage library cardholders.
- There have been one million annual checkouts of the juvenile/teen collection.
- Teen checkouts have increased steadily during the last three consecutive years.

One of the hallmarks of the Library's teen diversion programs is the Poetry Coffee House. It is a safe gathering place for teens. One of the headline events is the "Teen Poetry Slam". The poetry readings performed by teens have been an important vehicle of self-expression, confidence building, and a feeling of success. The attendance ranged from a handful to one-hundred, depending on the performers. The coffee house is opened one Thursday per month, and has been a resounding success. Currently, the Library staff is drafting a plan for augmenting space to accommodate more youth, and will be looking for grants to fund the expansion.

As a way of integrating our youth in civic life and establishing them as stakeholders, the Library has formed a Teen Council. This council assists with planning teen-related programs that are interesting to young people, provide feedback to staff and act as a library liaison to the schools and neighborhoods. In addition, the council reviews books, provides input on music and offers suggestions on how to enhance the library's youth friendly environment. The council is comprised of a maximum of ten members. Regular meetings are held either on a quarterly basis or weekly schedule as determined by need. Lastly, a grant funded project photographed local youth and their images were placed on bookmarks. These bookmarks have been widely distributed to promote the message that Long Beach teens enjoy reading. Based on the information provided by Library Youth Services, it appears that the library is a resource that youth are discovering to be a beneficial alternative for a quality and productive use of their time.

SECTION VIII: STATISTICS

- Long Beach demographics (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000):

  - 461,522 Total population
  - 35% Hispanic
  - 33% White (non-Hispanic)
  - 14% African-American
  - 13% Asian/Pacific Islander
  - 1% American Indian/Alaska Native

- Long Beach demographics of native gangs. This data is estimated and fluctuates (Long Beach Police Department, 2003):

  - 6000 estimated and fluctuating gang members
  - There are 90 known gang names with 55 active, estimated and fluctuating gang organizations (inclusive of 29 non-native gang organizations).
  - 48 Hispanic Gangs (inclusive of 19 non-native gangs)
  - 28 African American Gangs (inclusive of 8 non-native gangs)
  - 12 Asian Gangs (inclusive of 1 non-native gang)
  - 2 White Gangs (inclusive of 1 non-native gang)

- The prevalence of gang violence has been **observed in every Council District**, and needs to be addressed with a comprehensive citywide response.

- There were a total of 1,232 gang affiliates/members that were victims of violent (Part 1) crimes from 1995 through 2002 (Long Beach Police Department, 2003).

- Demographics of non-gang affiliates/members that were victims of violent crimes from 2000 through 2002 (Long Beach Police Department, 2003):

  - 369 Total Non-Gang Affiliate/Member victims:
    - 149 African American non-gang victims
    - 148 Hispanic non-gang victims
    - 49 Asian non-gang victims
    - 11 Pacific Islander non-gang victims
    - 10 White non-gang victims
    - 2 Other non-gang victims

- 67 homicides as of December 31, 2002 with the following breakdown: 31 were gang-related, inclusive of 15 gang-motivated homicides. (Long Beach Police Department, 2003.)

- The current parolee population citywide is 3,978 (Long Beach Police Department, 2003).

- There were 15 gang-related homicides attributed to parolees 1995 through 2002 (Long Beach Police Department, 2003).

- As of 2002, there are 65 graffiti tagging groups; 409 cases of graffiti Citywide; property damage undeterminable.

- Victims of racially motivated/hate crimes 1995 through 2002. This data is independent of gang-related or gang-motivated incidents (Long Beach Police Department, 2003):

    - Annual Total (for all hate crimes): 302
    - Hate Crimes (racially motiviated only): 187
    - Under current investigation for racial bias: 7

- One gang-related homicide case was successfully prosecuted under the hate crimes statutes in 2002 (Russell, Wendy Thomas, "Man Gets 25 Years to Life: Gang member pleads no contest in fatal shooting that was charged as hate crime," Press Telegram, August 29, 2002).

- 184,800 minors and young adults 0-24 years reside in Long Beach, representing 40% of the total Long Beach population (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). The following is a breakdown of this population group:

    - 115,600 residents 0-14 years, inclusive of 35,641 residents 10-14 years (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).
    - 33,542 residents 15-19 years (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).
    - 35,678 young adults 20-24 years (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

- 149,000 or 32% of the total City population are under age 19.

- Gang-related criminal activity is acute among the 18-24 age group (Long Beach Police Department, 2003).

- Chronic delinquents can be identified by age 13; preventive measures must occur within the educational system or community; early education programs and parent training programs hold promise for abating future chronic offenders (Greenwood, F.E. and Zimring, F.E., (1985) "One More Chance:

The Pursuit of Promising Intervention Strategies for Chronic Juvenile Offenders," Rand Publication).

- 40,000 minors under 18 years are living at or below the federal poverty level (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999); 60,000 adults 18 years and over are living at or below the poverty level; 14,000 single female head of household families with related minors under 18 years are living at or below the poverty level (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

- 14,433 families have incomes based on public assistance; the per capita income is $19,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

- Based on household income in 1999, 17% of Long Beach families (77,000) have an income below $35,000. The median income for this census period is $40,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

- 81% of Long Beach Unified School District's 97,000 students are people of color, compared to 31% of its teachers (Long Beach Unified School District, 2001).

- Over a third of Long Beach's students have limited English Proficiency (Long Beach Unified School District, 2001).

- Additional data from the Long Beach Unified School District is important to note:

  - Since 1996, approximately 4,000 students are enrolled at most high school sites.
  - 45% of middle school students have been in fights.
  - 11% of the students have brought weapons to school.

- Useful, but unavailable data at time of report:

  1. Bias and/or hate crime incidents on Long Beach Unified School District campuses.

- "Choices for Youth Preventing Youth Violence Survey," (subject pool n=474; 198 males and 276 females), conducted by CORAL Long Beach Youth Institute High School Students (2002), published the following findings (See Appendix: F):

  - 294 personally know a victim of violence.
  - 154 had been a victim of violence.
  - 271 had witnessed physical acts of violence at school an average of five times a week.

- 226 had witnessed physical acts violence in their neighborhoods on an average of five times a week.
- 149 can access a gun.
- 382 have anxiety about their safety and school violence involving a gun.
- 268 have adult supervision between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- 215 personally know a victim who has been killed resulting from violence.
- 316 have been teased or harassed at school during the last 12 months.

- Statewide, the leading cause of death for minors/young adults 15-19 years is homicide; youth 12 to 17 years are nearly three times more likely than adults to be victims of serious violent crimes; Regionally, Los Angeles County is the second most violent in California. Between 1999 and 2000 for youth 10-17 years, data indicates violence is the number killer of youth; 43% of survey youth can access a gun; 51 of 100,000 were hospitalized for assault, 161 of 100,000 are incarcerated; 40 of 100,000 suffer from self-inflicted wounds; only 35% of survey youth meet CSU/UC graduation requirements (Data cited from the "California Youth Violence Prevention Scorecard Survey," conducted by Choices for Youth and The California Wellness Foundation as cited in the Press Telegram, November 20, 2002).

- Nationally, 33% of minors/young adults 10–24 years report having been in a physical fight during the past year. 17% admitted to carrying a weapon during the past month. Mortality data for victims 10–24 years old indicate that 15% of deaths are caused by homicide (Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2000). In response to the proliferation of guns and their use in violence, the Long Beach Coalition for Prevention of Gun Violence proposed making the City a "Gun Free Zone" (See Appendix: G).

- Nationally, the second leading cause of death for minors and young adults 15-24 years is homicide. 48% of these homicides involved individuals 24 years or younger, with 9% involved below 18 years (Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2002).

- The areas currently being targeted by the police department as "focus beats" also happen to be the areas of highest concentration of youth under 18 years. This evidence demonstrates that are indeed significant problems among our youth, but a crisis which all of us are to be held accountable [See Appendix H: City of Long Beach Youth Population (2002) and Long Beach Police Department's "Crime and Census" Presentation (2003)]. Notably, these are also areas showing the greatest concentration of:

1. Calls for service
2. Gang activity
3. Population density
4. Poverty
5. Homicides
6. Citywide rapes
7. Active parolee population

(Prepared by: Deputy Chief, Tim Jackman, dated February 8, 2003)

SECTION IX: CITY OF LONG BEACH 2010 STRATEGIC PLAN

As part of the City's 2010 Strategic Plan, there is a goal to increase the safety of Long Beach youth. ("A Safe and Secure City, Goal 3: Increase the Safety of Long Beach Youth," (2001) page 18.) The steps include:

- Develop citywide strategies to prevent and respond to youth violence, balancing suppression, intervention and prevention approaches.
- Increase the number of safe places and job opportunities for youth through collaborative efforts by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, the Mayor's Faith Leaders for Youth, volunteer senior citizens, parents, and other adults participating in after-school and evening activities.
- Ensure that the City's Gang Intervention and Prevention Program (GIPP) has enough staff and resources.
- Make guns less available to youth by assigning a City Council representative to the Municipal Gun Violence Working Group, nominating a participant to the Women Against Gun Violence Committee and supporting gun control legislation.
- Encourage community service opportunities in the neighborhoods instead of incarceration as punishment for youth crime, when appropriate.
- Charge the Greater Long Beach Area Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Council with spearheading a collaborative effort to increase access to programs that prevent, intervene in and educate the public about child abuse and domestic violence.

Since the City has already established this goal as part of its long-term strategic efforts to create a safety community environment for youth, the Commission strongly suggests that these objectives be implemented through the Citywide task force recommended by the Commission below.

SECTION X: RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the budget challenges the City is facing, the recommendations below were crafted in a manner to utilize existing resources. However, a coordinator position is needed for to sustain the work.

Given the tremendous complexity of this problem, it is the recommendation of the Human Relations Commission that an institutionalized response in the form of a comprehensive community-wide approach be undertaken to develop a strategic response to his youth and gang violence.

It is the opinion of the Human Relations Commission that the responsibility to address the issue of violence among certain youth and young adults effectively lies within every major sector of our community: faith community, educational institutions, local government, law enforcement, business and neighborhood organizations, community-based organizations and others. Moreover, this distinguished body must be committed and dedicated to achieving solutions that make sense for the City of Long Beach, taking into consideration our unique, highly diverse sociological landscape. To accomplish this daunting, but surmountable task, it is the recommendation of the Commission:

1. That the City convenes a citywide intervention task force representative of the major leadership sectors of the community: faith leaders, educational (elementary, secondary, community college and university) leaders, youth leaders, local government (including the City's Youth Library Services, Parks, Recreation and Marine Youth Services, and the Children and Youth Commission), law enforcement, business, neighborhood organizations and community based organizations (including the City's Youth Services NETWORK). Further, that this task force convene for a three-year period which will enable it to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of any and all subsequent recommendations to address youth and gang violence that will be forthcoming.

    a. That in partnership with the Human Dignity Program, the leadership base for this task force be formed with representatives from the Chief of Police's current Police Advisory Boards as a means of utilizing the City's existing infrastructure.

    b. That this task force immediately begins a campaign to get every sector of the community to identify and implement actions for general and targeted populations (See Appendix: K).

    c. That this task force consider utilizing the intervention framework developed by Dr. Karen Umemoto, Ph.D., University of Hawaii at Manoa, entitled "Planning for Peace: Developing a Strategic Response to Racial Violence, 2002," as a means to develop immediate and long term strategies to address this problem.

2. That the City utilizes the existing services of the Greater Long Beach National Conference for Community and Justice to facilitate the safe and productive communication of the Citywide intervention task force.

3. That the City Council implements the Commission on Children and Youth, and a Youth Advisory Council, developed by Cynthia Fogg, Youth Services Superintendent, Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (See Appendix: J).

4. That the City utilizes the Human Dignity Program's Hate Crime Response Team to mediate racialized gang violence, and the Intergroup Conflict Resolution Team be used as resource to mediate intracultural or intercultural gang violence, as appropriate. In addition, that under the direction of the Human Dignity Program, the National Conference for Community and Justice train staff of the City's Gang Intervention and Prevention Program (GIPP) as mediators to be used as a resource for effectuating resolution efforts via the Hate Crime Response Team or the Intergroup Conflict Resolution Team.

5. That the City Council develops a public educational awareness campaign (modeled after the anti-tobacco initiative campaign) to communicate anti-gang messages which de-glorifies and de-glamorizes violence through the promotion of positive character and community and social values, e.g., integrity, responsibility, accountability and respect. The City would work with community based organizations who serve the groups most affected by the violence to develop messages that are culturally and linguistically sensitive to the diverse population in the City, e.g., brochures, billboards, bus stop advertisements and multi-ethnic events.

6. That the City Council allows the Human Relations Commission to research and forward suggestions for the application of funding to offset the cost of some of the recommendations contained in this report.

7. That the City Council strengthens its relationship with ethnic community-based organizations, which serves those groups most disaffected by violence, through technical support and other meaningful measures that are mutually determined to increase the viability of their efforts.

SECTION XI: CONCLUSION

Over the past seven years, the human deficit caused by youth and gang violence has taken its toll on Long Beach with the loss of potential that each person represented. Even though public perception and law enforcement data are not in alignment on whether the violence has been primarily motivated by racial or ethnic intolerance, many people of goodwill throughout this City are calling for reconciliation and have renewed their commitment to work to end the violence regardless of its origin. Institutionalizing a citywide intervention task force is an important step in a long-term process toward empowering the community-at-large to reclaim one neighborhood at a time. The Commission applauds ongoing law enforcement post incident suppression efforts that have successfully decreased recent reports of gang-related violence. With the summer of 2003 upon us, the Commission believes that the City must be in best position possible to respond in a coordinated and comprehensive fashion to thwart the potential escalation of violence that marred the summer of 2002. Total community involvement will be integral to effectuating long-term achievable solutions. Time is of the essence to initiate a new era of peace within our borders and to end the cycle of violence that has plagued the City over the past seven years.

The Long Beach Human Relations Commission is dedicated and committed to seeking and pursuing ways in which peaceful co-existence can become an established way of life between and among the citizens of our fine City. The Commission realizes that the information presented in this report is complex and that some concepts and data presented will need further development and clarification. Therefore, the Commission is available to answer any questions and clarify information as needed. In addition, we found that preparing this report has afforded us the opportunity to become more aware of the importance of the Commission as an instrument to work toward lasting peaceful solutions to issues in our City.

SECTION XII:

APPENDICES

1 APPENDIX: A

Human Relations Commission's Final Report to Mayor and City Council on Interracial Gang Violence, dated April 18, 1995.

CITY OF LONG BEACH
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
2525 GRAND AVENUE • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90815 • (310) 570-4001

April 18, 1995

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

SUBJECT: Final Report to Mayor and City Council on Interracial Gang Violence

BACKGROUND

In May 1994, three Hispanic youth were killed by members of an Asian gang. This was one more in a series of tragic events in an increasing trend of gang violence. The Human Relations Commission (Commission) was asked to address this problem.

In addressing the issue of gang violence the Commission learned that race is rarely the key ingredient that sparks the violence amongst gangs. The reasons are often related to drop outs, limited opportunities for employment, territorial disputes, rapidly changing demographics, and few recreational or constructive alternative activities, drugs and other factors. Our report, therefore, addresses youth violence as a general topic and does not focus on race.

In May and June, 1994, the Commission held several public meetings which provided a means of strategizing the best methods to solicit community feedback on the problems of youth and gang violence in the Long Beach community. They also provided an open forum where community and agency leaders, youth experts, political officials, and Long Beach citizens communicated about and discussed solutions regarding the increase in gang violence in Long Beach.

In June 1994 the Commission presented an Interim Report to the Mayor and City Council. The Commission's recommendations were:

- Adopt the Interim Report "Addressing Interracial Gang Violence in Long Beach" as an informational document from the Human Relations Commission; and
- Implement emergency programs for youth recreation, counseling and employment for the summer.

These recommendations were approved unanimously by the Mayor and City Council.

The Commissioners are aware of the mobile van program that was initiated and implemented by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine to transport recreation equipment for youth into neighborhoods where these services are limited or non-existent. The Commissioners are also aware that the Washington Youth Center was opened and is operated by the City.

The Commission was not the only group responding. The Commission acknowledges the efforts of private citizens, schools, agencies, and churches who mobilized and took action in an attempt to address the concerns raised by the tragic death of so many young people. The community rose to the challenge and instituted model programs such as the Jordan High School Peace 90805 and the drug and gun free zone program of Long Beach Citizens and Business Against Crime and the Long Beach Police Department's high profile presence in affected neighborhoods.

The Commission met several times to discuss the issues raised in the public forums and to develop the recommendations presented to the Mayor and City Council today. These recommendations lay a framework for community action.

It must be recognized that all sectors of the community, schools, churches, parents, youth, and businesses, need to partiqipate in planning and implementation of any strategy in order for it to be successful. The Commission is limited in its charge to only making recommendations on City policies and activities and is not authorized to conduct programs. The Commission strongly urges the City to coordinate and work in concert with all sectors to have lasting and significant impact.

There was a sense of urgency that something had to be done and done quickly, to stop the bloodshed. In response, and independent of the Commission, there were tremendous and highly successful efforts put forth by a group of key individuals to achieve a gang truce. They have quietly, systematically and successfully achieved this. They deserve full credit for their efforts. The young people who have pledged a peaceful end to their conflicts also merit our thanks and congratulations.

The comments of those attending the public meetings highlight many individual, community risk factors, and protective factors related to youth crime. They show a high level of awareness and consensus by the citizens of Long Beach about individual and community violence factors. There is not, however, a consensus by the public and/or professionals about what specifically does work and what will work for Long Beach. The ideas clearly expressed by professionals attending is that what works in one city will not always work in another.

The most commonly expressed concerns of those who attended these meetings (including professionals, community leaders, agency directors, and citizens) provides a viable starting point for addressing the gang violence within the City of Long Beach. The greatest problems/needs identified were:

1. Lack of personal and community safety
2. Poverty and lack of jobs
3. High levels of individual and community frustration
4. Language and cultural barriers
5. Need for improved communication
6. Need for youth to be heard
7. Need for youth involvement
8. Immediate need for intervention
9. Lack of parental involvement
10. Lack of financial resources to address problems

The concerns expressed indicate that the problem of gang violence is complex, and include factors ranging from emotional, economic, social, and cultural conditions. Plainly, they involve the individual youth, family, school, peer group, neighborhood, and society, and, therefore, are complex and multi-faceted. This indicates a long-term need to address the increase in youth violence with a comprehensive, coordinated approach to programming. This type of programming has shown to be more effective in addressing complex social problems.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are presented with a preamble that explains the rationale for the recommendation that follows.

RECOMMENDATION 1

The Commission learned that there are many groups and individuals working on one or several aspects of the problem. However, it was clear that there is no unifying strategy or long term commitment for coordination. There was some short term coordination between the Police Department and some community groups. Many groups and individuals learned of each other as a result of hearing each other testify at the public forums. Since the initial hearings community wide efforts have been initiated in response to this need. However, these efforts need to be better coordinated.

The Commission recognizes and acknowledges these efforts. They include the following:

- The Commission recognizes that the City Manager created an Office of Youth, Education, and Community Services. It is understood that this office has been working to catalogue existing services and prevent gang involvement by youth.

- The Commission recognizes that the Press Telegram and Long Beach Community Partnership held a Public Safety Summit on October 5, 1994. At the end of the meeting the need for coordination and a centralized information system was identified as a major recommendation needing action.

- The Commission recognizes that the Nonprofit Partnership has acknowledged the need for this function and has been exploring methods for implementation.

The Commission commends the organizations and individuals involved in these efforts. We understand that they are all dialoguing with each other in order to come up with one unified information and referral system. It is vitally important to have a clear understanding of what services are available and what the existing gaps in service are. This is needed both so that those needing services can access them and also so that those planning strategies and programs can do so in a coordinated manner.

The following recommendation is made specifically to address this need:

Recommendation 1:

The City should actively participate in the development of a clearinghouse function that consolidates information on programs and connects the community with the services available.

RECOMMENDATION 2

Given the level and intensity of gang violence that was occurring at the time, there was a clearly expressed need for immediate intervention. The recommendation of the Interim Report partially addressed this issue.

At this time, recognition needs to be given to those individuals who are out in the field working with youth, day in and day out, utilizing limited resources to help them deal with problems that no one should be faced with.

The majority of young people in the community also deserve recognition for all the hard work they do given the adversity they face. All too often only the negative is seen and discussed and the assets of our youth and their contribution are overlooked.

All sectors of the community must come together to develop a unified strategy to support our youth and prevent future tragedies. A shared vision is needed, this vision will shape clear goals to achieve a comprehensive strategy to solve the issues of violence throughout the different sectors of the community. Each sector of the community should then work on their portion of this strategy in concert with the other sectors to achieve the vision.

The youth have been speaking out about the violence around and among them. The community needs to listen to what the youth have been saying about the issues and to the solutions they are presenting.

- The Commission recognizes the work of Leadership Long Beach and the National Conference in planning and holding the annual Long Beach Area Youth Summit, which provides an opportunity for youth throughout the city to speak with each other and address questions, concerns and solutions to the adult leadership from various sectors of Long Beach.

In 1994, the Long Beach Area Youth Summit was held. The following are some specific examples that the youth identified to end youth violence:

- Safe-centers for youth in Long Beach communities with activities to participate in with programs geared for youth stay out of the street life.
- More efforts should be directed at getting rid of guns.
- The issues of crime and violence will not be solved without the support of the community and city officials.
- Create anonymous hotlines that will allow people to report crimes without the fear of retaliation.
- There should be places were youths are able to take refuge and be able to stay out of trouble at night or on weekends.
- Have drug education programs at a high school level to teach students the consequences of using drugs. Have high school students teach elementary students about drug abuse.
- Develop high school role models for elementary students to provide a good example of what it is like to be a good student.
- Help to plan and participate in after school programs.

Throughout the community there is a similar theme being stated by youth, task forces, commissions, and police studies in regard to dealing with the issues of youth and violence. The Commission began a process of dialogue in the hearings that once begun, should be continued and sustained by the City. This process should include all sectors of the community and should lead to a coordinated plan/strategy that has a place for the religious community, parents, schools, business, police, neighborhoods and families. The Commission, however, is not the appropriate body to take a leadership role in this process. It is very clear that this process needs to occur, and it is hoped very strongly that the City can be a player with other segments of the community, to develop a shared vision and strategy.

Recommendation 2:

The City should take a leadership role in developing sustained, long term, comprehensive strategies that support youth and decrease violence throughout the City.

RECOMMENDATION 3

There is a clear need for collaboration, consolidation, and coordination amongst youth-serving agencies. The process of gathering information for the clearinghouse can serve as a starting place for these efforts. The information gathered should be made widely available for planning and effective program delivery.

Recommendation 3:

The City should support efforts for various agencies/providers to network, share information, resources and strengthen funding possibilities. Where possible the City could provide support to various collaborative efforts. Religious leaders, youth, community activists and other important leaders need to be involved in coordinating a strong coalition to deal with the issue of youth gang violence.

RECOMMENDATION 4

One of the consistent themes that was heard at the public hearings, and that youth have been saying at other forums, is that youth should have a more active voice and role in society. Youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow, the City should invest in developing this important leadership potential.

All decisions made by the City will impact youth in one way or another. The City solicits input and advice from residents through its advisory committees, commissions and boards. The only segment of the population currently excluded are youths:

Youth should be recruited and provided training to become full participants. A program similar to the Chamber Women's Council "Get on Board" program can serve as a model.

Recommendation 4:

The City should appoint youth to existing boards, commissions, and other task forces that relate to issues concerning youth. Youth who want to participate should receive special training. The commissioners, board members and task forces should also be provided with training on how to work effectively with youth. The City should provide for an annual forum for youth from the different boards to meet and discuss the outcomes achieved from participating in the decision-making process.

RECOMMENDATION 5

The City and other segments of the community, especially the media, can either look at youth and their deficits and continue to perpetuate negativism and feed into the problems, or we can all take the high ground and look at the assets of each individual youth and help build on those assets. Studies have shown that the more assets a youth has the more likely they are to grow into successful, contributing members of society. It is our challenge and our task to become asset builders by creating an environment that will allow our youth to develop their potential. The City should examine its youth programs and assure that youth are being supported in a positive manner.

The City should spearhead efforts with the media to highlight the positive contributions our youth make everyday. The City, in its interaction with other sectors of the community, should use its influence to help build support systems for our youth.

In a time of budget cuts, the City must be mindful that programs that support our youth be the last, not the first to be cut. In cutting youth programs, the message they receive is that they are not valuable and worth the investment of society. We need to value our youth in order for them to value themselves and each other enough not to act in violent ways.

Recommendation 5:

Assure that City programs support youth, strengthen their sense of belonging and respect their different cultural backgrounds. The City should actively work with the media to show the contributions of youth.

RECOMMENDATION 6

The role of parents was also extensively discussed. Youth need strong family units to thrive. Parents today need many tools and support systems to help their youth succeed. Parental skills training and English language acquisition are of prime importance to help parents raise successful youth.

Recommendation 6:

The City should provide, in all possible City programs, parental training to promote and encourage parents to get involved in youth activities and in violence prevention programs.

The outcome/benefits of instituted programs must lead to solutions that will increase neighborhood and personal safety. The programs need to promote strong communities through involvement of youth, parents, religious leaders, government, police and other important community figures. We gratefully acknowledge everyone working to improve our neighborhoods and support our youth.

Public safety is foremost in the minds of most citizens today. We commend the Long Beach Police Department whose work led to the arrests of two suspects allegedly responsible for the tragic incident last May that sparked this report. But arrest and conviction of individual gang members for illegal and violent acts are not sufficient to ensure safety. Prevention mechanisms and activities are vital. We cannot ensure public safety if we abandon our youth.

The Commission thanks the Mayor and City Council for the opportunity to explore the issues in this report.

The Human Relations Commission strongly urges that the Mayor and City Council adopt the recommendations presented today.

THE COMMISSION MAKES THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

1. **The City should actively participate in the development of a clearinghouse function that consolidates information on programs and connects the community with the services available.**

2. **The City should take a leadership role in developing sustained, long term, comprehensive strategies that support youth and decrease violence throughout the City.**

3. The City should support efforts for various agencies/providers to network, share information, resources and strengthen funding possibilities. Where possible the City could provide support to various collaborative efforts. Religious leaders, youth, community activists and other important leaders need to be involved in coordinating a strong coalition to deal with the issue of youth gang violence.

4. The City should appoint youth to existing boards, commissions, and other task forces that relate to issues concerning youth. Youth who want to participate should receive special training. The commissioners, board members and task forces should also be provided with training on how to work effectively with youth. The City should provide for an annual forum for youth from the different boards to meet and discuss the outcomes achieved from participating in the decision-making process.

5. Assure that City programs support youth, strengthen their sense of belonging and respect their different cultural backgrounds. The City should actively work with the media to show the contributions of youth.

6. The City should provide, in all possible City programs, parental training to promote and encourage parents to get involved in youth activities and in violence prevention programs.

Sincerely,

David D Newell

David Newell, Chair
Human Relations Commission

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2 APPENDIX: B

A Chronological Summary of Commission Fact-Finding Meetings held between August 22, 2002 and February 13, 2003.

1. On August 22, 2002, the Commission held a special study session on the nature and origin of and solutions to intercultural gang violence, in particular, the escalating violence between the Latino and African-American communities. The forum included the following representatives: Sergeant Rudy Komieza, Long Beach Police Department; Alvin Bernstein, Superintendent, Parks Recreation and Marine, Gang Intervention and Prevention Program (GIPP); and members of the public including parents of slain children. At this meeting, the Commission learned about the significant adverse impact that these deaths cause not only to victims and their families, but also the psychological cost to their neighborhoods, and the entire City. Moreover, the Commission learned that there are two schools of thought regarding the causes and contributing factors for the continuing violence among our youth. One prevailing view is that racially motivated gang violence is influenced and, in some cases, may be directed by prison gangs. The second primary observation is that the violence is driven by social and economic considerations, e.g., the drug trade and territorialism. The Commission believes that these two opinions may not be mutually exclusive.

2. On September 12, 2002, the Commission heard from Gus Frias, Los Angeles County Office of Education, Safe Schools Division; Stephen Thom, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Relations; and Paul Burke, Deputy District Attorney, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. Each speaker provided a thorough presentation about the negative impact that the escalation of gang violence is having throughout Los Angeles County and California, as well as the budgetary considerations of viable solutions. Their discussions covered best practices in intervention, e.g., Gang Risk Intervention Program (GRIP) and Operation Eagle (AB2516), the effectiveness of suppression activities, prosecutorial challenges, housing, density, parental attitudes about child rearing practices, historical gang rivalries, and the role of cultural dynamics. Both Mr. Frias and Mr. Thom emphasized prevention, intervention, suppression and restoration as key interlocking components to effectuating long-term achievable outcomes.

3. On October 5, 2002, the Commission held its annual strategic planning session. Based on the previous public forums, the Commission believed it needed further information about: (1) the parolee population, (a) areas of the parolees concentration and their impact on neighborhoods, (b) the availability of re-entry programs for recently released inmates, (c) half-way house locations, (d) the availability of mental health services for parolees, and (e) the correlation between homicide and the parolees.

Also, the Commission was interested in: (2) the percentage of male and female gang members, (2) the correlation between available youth-related services and mitigation of violence, and (3) the geographic tracking of gang violence throughout the City. In addition, the Commission needed to conduct an inventory of the youth related services provided by the City since the 1995 report to the City Council, as well as determine the status of implementation.

During the second part of the strategic planning session, the Commission heard from Karen Hilburn, Director, Alternative Education and Student Support Services for the Long Beach Unified School District, wherein she informed the Commission about the school district's efforts to counteract gang violence in the schools, e.g., truancy issues, the scope of after school programs, and the Crisis Response Program, which is an innovative crisis response model that is unique to Long Beach. This approach involves a team of parents, counselors, school administrators, teachers, sworn/non-sworn personnel, and mental health experts that work in close collaboration with the Long Beach Police Department. Also, she addressed the strong relationship between the school district and City in combating youth violence in schools as well as on the streets. Ms. Hilburn noted the following key points:

- The gang issue is a serious problem.
- The key is prevention, especially at the elementary and middle school levels, e.g., Police Activity League sites, and DARE.
- Other ways to help students focus their time more productively and develop marketable skills included, academic programs such as the Center for International Commerce, vocational training (trade, technology, Regional Occupational Center, and Job Corps).
- Target adult gang members who recruit youth.
- Changing attitudes toward race is very difficult.
- Approximately, 13,000 students have received student-centered services at the Truancy Center, e.g., counseling, instruction on the pillars of positive character development, and assistance with academic needs.
- Youngsters are particularly vulnerable at 1:40 p.m., due to some schools using "block scheduling." If there are no after school programs at these specific schools, the hours of vulnerability are from 1:40 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. because of the early release associated with "block scheduling." Moreover, at least 50% of these youth are without adult supervision typically because at least one or both parents are working during these hours.
- 2nd grade (7-8 years old) is the key stage when truancy habits begin.
- The majority of students feel safe at school, but they do not feel safe walking to and from school.

- Every school site has programmatic activities which address bullying, conflict mediation practices, a safe school plan, and student study teams (that address academic and behavior concerns).

4. On October 10, 2002, the Commission held a field meeting at the West Facilities Center in the 7th Council District. Sunny Nash, a nationally recognized writer addressed the Commission regarding her efforts in violence prevention (for Kindergarten—Fifth Grade students) in Long Beach. Ms. Nash spoke about her success at the middle and high school grades utilizing art and writing as a creative outlet for juvenile offenders. The works of former participants have received local and statewide attention. In additional, a football coach from David Starr Jordan High School and a graduate of Jordan spoke about student experiences, concerns, and efforts that are underway to mitigate the impact that violence has on the youth in North Long Beach.

5. On November 14, 2002, the Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at which three youths spoke about their experiences living and attending school in the City. Two of the panelists were African-American high school students who attended Wilson High School and Cabrillo High School, respectively. The Commission was schooled in terms like "gloater: someone who tries to amp you up," in short, an instigator, "tag along, " youths who like to watch fights.

   The students spoke passionately about the threat of violence: "Everyday, after school there's a fight, " and the temptation to engage: "It's hard not to fight when there's someone constantly in your face." They also shared frightening stories of "being jumped," and having "guns pulled" on them. One youth stated: "It's strictly about the race factor now…violence is rising like bread dough." Another stated that five of his friends had died as a result of violence. The young men spoke eloquently about the negative influence of some parents and family members who promote division and racial hatred: "It's training day from your aunts and uncles…it's about pride." The third panelist shed light on his experiences as a former gang member who had reformed as an adult and wanted to give back to the community by helping present gang members to seek positive alternatives to gang life.

6. On December 12, 2002, the Commission heard from Rene Castro, MSW, a Lecturer at California State University, Long Beach and Program Director for the Greater Long Beach National Conference for Community and Justice, who provided a framework for a comprehensive intervention strategy to address racialized gang violence. In addition, Shaun R. Lumachi, Vice President of Governmental Affairs for the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, expressed his personal commitment to and offered the suggestion that the City develop a Citywide youth commission to integrate youth into civic life as method of building community stakeholders and participants in the political process.

7. On January 9, 2003, the Commission heard from members of the community and City staff. Mack Calvin, a Long Beach native, Poly graduate, former coach at Dominguez High School, and former player with the National Basketball Association, stated that the business community must exert a stronger effort to train young people for available employment opportunities. Gregg Whelan, Chairman of Strategic Marketing, stated that he believed that the urban areas in Long Beach had been ignored. He spoke about his involvement with and the securing of City and private funding for the Amer-I-Can program. It was his opinion that this program is the best response to life-skills development currently operating in the City. Mr. Whelan stated that Ian Lamont, publisher of the Press Telegram, was "so inspired" by the work of Amer-I-Can that he challenged the public to get involved with this organization as a major vehicle to implementing positive fundamental change in the lives of the City's youth.

   Ray Worden, Manager, Workforce Development Bureau, spoke about the City's involvement with the Amer-I-Can program and attributed to the hard work of the staff to the organization's successful launch in Long Beach. He stated the program is one of the latest and most exciting investments in the City as a means of bringing hope and alternative opportunities for young people in the community. Mr. Worden stated that even though Amer-I-Can is building strong foundations for personal responsibility in the lives of its participants, business outlets are needed. He reported that, "last summer of 2002, summer youth employment was the lowest since 1965." The outlook is bleak for "the summer of 2003, only 100 City youth summer jobs" will be available. Mr. Worden stated that the City is working more closely with the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce to develop badly needed private sector employment for youth.

   Robert Villegas, Administrative Analyst for Councilman Dan Baker, spoke about the many challenges faced by residents living in high-density housing and the diverse neighborhoods that comprise the Second District. He applauded the efforts of the Commission to address important and preventative community work during tough economic times.

   Duane Moody, the consultant for the Amer-I-Can Foundation for Social Change, commented on the value of the program in his life. He spoke about the generous donation by the Press Telegram as a tangible expression of its support for the Amer-I-Can program and to further its work.

   Jim Brown, Founder of Amer-I-Can Foundation for Social Change, stated that Amer-I-Can is an effective gang prevention program offered currently in 28 states. This organization builds positive character through a systematic curriculum and behavior modification techniques, requiring participants to undergo 60 hours of instruction. The program has been operating in the City since August 2002; 25 reformed gang members have graduated from this intervention since December 2002. The Commission learned that the Amer-I-

Can's approach to gang violence prevention has been so effective and highly regarded by Los Angeles County Sheriff Baca, that the curriculum is instructed at the Los Angeles County Pitchess Detention Center in Valencia, California. According to Mr. Brown, when the modules are facilitated, there are no conflicts among the various multi-racial and multi-ethnic inmate participants. Mr. Brown expressed confidence that the organization can make a difference by positively impacting youth at the middle and high school levels.

The Commission also heard from Mrs. Thesbe Lewis, an activist from the 7th Council District. She gave an emotional testimony about her personal experience as a parent who has lost two sons to violence: the unsolved murder of the oldest son 16 years ago, and the youngest son incarcerated for more than 15 years, as a result of the tragedy sustained through the death of his older brother. The Commission learned about the lasting impact that gang violence has on a family.

Moreover, the Commission heard testimony from Ms. Jeanette Lewis, a concerned single mother raising an adolescent African-American male. The Commission received information that City services directed toward youth employment are often not located in areas that are not seen as safe for African-American males, which precludes certain youth any opportunity to take advantage of job training and placement. Also, Ms. Lewis expressed the prevailing perception that since the gang issue is a problem predominated by ethnic minority (sic) youth (residing west of Redondo Avenue) as victims and perpetrators:

- That the community-at-large values the life of a minority youth less than the life of a non-minority youth,
- If non-minority youth were involved in this crisis, the community-at-large would not have tolerated such high homicide rates and immediate measures to bring matters under control would have been initiated, and
- Finding solutions does not rise to a heightened level of awareness to seek measures beyond police suppression and incarceration.

8. At the February 13, 2003, regular meeting, the Commission heard testimony from several leaders of local community based organizations: Him Chhim, Cambodian Association of America; Holly Kadesh, Jewish Children and Family Services; Evelyn Knight, Atlantic Community Economic Development Corporation; Amelia Nieto, El Centro Shalom; Jessica Quintana, El Centro Community Hispanic Association (C.H.A.); Sereivuth Prak, United Cambodian Community; Melanie Washington, Mentoring, A Touch from Above. The organizations expressed the belief that the City needs to take an active role in supporting their efforts to provide quality service to those groups most affected by the violence. These organizations indicated that there needs to be a reassertion and restoration of community values to be disseminated as a way of reaching people who do not

value positive community relations and peaceful co-existence with their neighbors. Other comments included:

- Parents do not understand the pressure that their children are under.
- Bussing (to safer school districts) is 'an' answer, but not 'the' solution.
- The perception of some young people after a violent incident is: "Your way (police intervention) doesn't work." Youth jump in to retaliate because of their feelings of helplessness.
- The perception of some citizens is that police do not take appropriate action.
- High population density causes many conflicts.
- The perceived "war" involving African-American and Hispanic youth stems from the adult prisons, contaminates the youth authority and the juvenile halls, and then flows into the neighborhoods.
- Our children are looking for someone to care about them.
- We caregivers and parents must be willing to correct our children, even if it means using corporal punishment, always with love and never out of anger.
- The City is diverse, but has not embraced this diversity.
- Ethnic coalitions are necessary to develop multi-cultural approaches.
- A youth multi-cultural coalition is needed.
- We must think strategically—a plan that maximizes everybody's strengths.
- First, we must transform ourselves; next, we will transform each other; then we will transform our community.
- Violence is a learned behavior. It can be unlearned.
- We must change the family environment.
- Programs need to be early intervention and school-based, affecting every grade from elementary through high school.
- The City should conduct a cost benefit analysis of prevention and intervention measures: think of the cost savings for every child that is rescued from a gang, is it one-hundred thousand dollars in saved tax payer revenue? Two-hundred thousand dollars?
- Use the approach implemented by the anti-tobacco initiative as a method of instituting anti-gang messages to redirect behavior toward more productive goals.

3 APPENDIX: C

"Intercultural Gang Violence Report," Long Beach Police Department Memorandum to Human Relations Commission, dated May 9, 2003.

City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

Date: May 9, 2003

To: Lydia Hollie, Chair, Long Beach Human Relations Commission

From: Anthony W. Batts, Chief of Police

Subject: **INTERCULTURAL GANG VIOLENCE REPORT**

The following information is provided in response to your request.

1) **The race/ethnicity and number of gangs in the City.** There are approximately 6,000 gang members in the city of Long Beach. The race and ethnicity of the gangs in the city is divided into four categories.

48 Hispanic Gangs
28 African American Gangs
12 Asian Gangs
2 White Gangs

2) **The total number of youth-related/involved homicides since April 1, 1995.** The break down is provided below:

Year	Youth involved
1995	11
1996	11
1997	0
1998	0
1999	1
2000	3
2001	0
2002	6

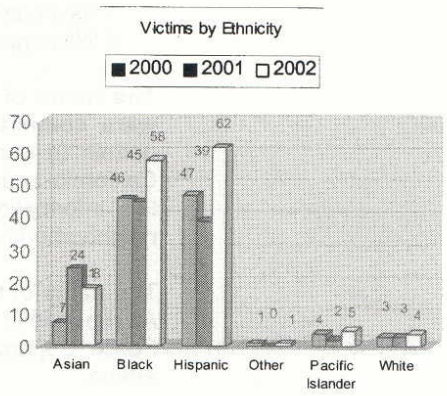
3) **The number of crimes that were racially ("bias/hate") motivated and the race/ethnicity of the victim and suspect.** This information is not captured electronically and would require a labor-intensive manual search. However, the total number of hate crimes for the years 1995 through 2002 are provided below:

Year	Annual Total	Racial Motivation
1995	24	16
1996	20	12
1997	48	39
1998	64	40
1999	42	25
2000	23	10
2001	37	24
2002	44	21

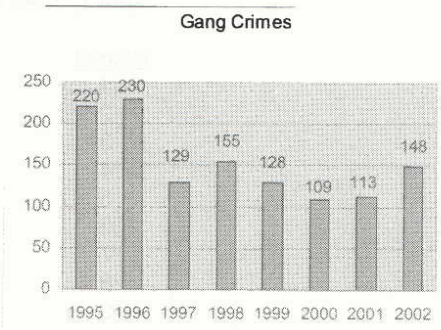
4) **The number of crimes currently under investigation as bias motivated and race/ethnicity of the victim and suspect.** There are seven cases currently under investigation with the race/ethnicity of the victim and suspect provided below:

Victim	Suspect
White	Unknown
African American	Unknown
White	Unknown
Hispanic	Hispanic & White
White	Unknown
Other	Unknown
Cambodian & Vietnamese	Unknown

5) **The race/ethnicity and number of victims who were non-gang affiliates/members.** In the year 2000, the Police Department began capturing race/ethnicity. The data in the chart to the right reflects the total number of victims involved in gang crimes by ethnicity and not by their gang affiliation.



6) **The race/ethnicity and number of victims who were gang affiliates/members.** This information is not captured electronically and would require a labor-intensive manual search. The Police Department collects data depicting the total number of victims involved in all gang related crimes, but not by ethnicity as shown in the chart at the right.



7) **The number of crimes that are motivated by territorial disputes.** The Police Department does not track gang crimes as they relate to territorial disputes, due to the inability to prove the crime was committed to gain territory.

8) **The number of crimes that are drug related (possession and sale) disputes.** The information is not available.

9) **The race/ethnicity and number of gangs that have come into the City.** The number of gangs within Long Beach that have been recognized as not being native to the city but have relocated within are provided below:

19 Hispanic gangs
8 African American gangs
1 Asian gang
1 White gang

The name of the schools in the Council Districts where the crimes were committed. A database collects information on schools as they pertain to gang members. This database is controlled by the State of California and currently there is no method to generate a report seeking this information. However the Police Department is providing a list of neighborhood schools by Council Districts (see attachment).

The name of the schools where active gang affiliates/members attend. As reported in question number ten, a formal report is not generated by the Police Department to identify youth gang members by the school they attend.

The Council Districts where gang activity is most prevalent. The gang activity (by percentage) as it relates to Council Districts for the time period of April 1, 1995 through December 31, 2002 is provided below.

District	Percentage
1	17%
2	8%
3	1%
4	6%
5	1%
6	31%
7	13%
8	8%
9	15%

The population of parolees in the city. The population of parolees in Long Beach currently is 3,978. Of this number, 425 have no real address, but the State Parolee Commission reports them as residing in the city.

The Council Districts and neighborhood schools where parolees are released/reside. Parolee releases are controlled by the state. The number of parolees residing in the city of Long Beach by Council District is provided below.

District	Parolees
1	790
2	539
3	97
4	371
5	78
6	629
7	297
8	374
9	378

The number of parolees that have been involved in homicides attributed to gang activity. For the years 1995 through 2002 the Police Department reports the following:

Year	Parolees
1995	2
1996	2
1997	0
1998	2
1999	2
2000	2
2001	2
2002	3

Graffiti

Approximately 65 tagging groups have been recognized as being native to the city or operating outside but connected to the city of Long Beach. Of those groups one or more crew names are utilized as part of their identity. In 2002, there were 409 reported cases of graffiti in the city of Long Beach. We are unable to provide a count of graffiti reports prior to 2002, graffiti was categorized in other forms of vandalism in the California Penal Code and therefore there is no accurate count available. The reported calls for graffiti removal are not available through the Police Department. The extent of property damage sustained over a year(s) is not available.

Police Department Opinion

The following information is provided in response to questions requesting the Police Departments' opinion.

1) **What is the potential for escalation and de-escalation of conflict for the remaining months of 2003? Year 2004?** This is a difficult area to predict due to the number of variables that can influence this activity either way. Escalation can be based upon any number of independent events and is hard to forecast. De-escalation can be influenced though apprehension and prosecution of influential members of individual gangs. Community based groups can also influence the areas of de-escalation.

2) **It there a sign that gangs are mobilizing?** No, we are not seeing a mobilization or joining of forces within the gang communities. Each representative gang still appears to maintain its own identity.

3) **To what extent are the parolees pivotal to the escalation and de-escalation of violence on the streets?** Again, this is a very difficult area to predict the influence or lack there of, within the community. The level of influence would depend upon the individual reputation of the party involved. We do not see a consistent pattern of over influence involving parolees. This really is best evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

4) **Is there evidence of retaliatory efforts underway by the conflicting sides?** Retaliation can come in a variety of ways, verbally, physically (graffiti) or violently. We see sporadic incidents of retaliation but not always in every case. We are frequently successful in averting retaliation as a result of successful apprehension and increased suppression efforts post incident.

5) **Which voice resonates the loudest between the conflicting sides, the voice of division or the voice reconciliation?** Reconciliation does not usually seem the preferred method of resolving issues with conflicting sides. Within the gang community and culture reconciliation is often perceived as weakness.

6) **To what extent are the conflicting sides able to maintain their respective positions?** Again this is a variable question and depends upon the current level of criminal activity or adversarial hostility with other gangs.

7) **To what extent will the conflicting sides allow intervention efforts to be implemented and sustained?** This is a huge variable; intervention is not always well received. While efforts may be frequently made it depends upon the recipient and the circumstances surrounding the event that can influence whether intervention is accepted.

8) **In the face of the violence, what are the motivations or disincentives for peace building by the conflicting sides?** The potential always exits to attempt to develop peace building, however within the gang culture resolution is often perceived as weakness. Ideals and attitudes are based upon the perception of "respect."

9) **What are the indicators that the community-at-large is ready to diligently pursue and sustain peace-making efforts?** We have participated in a number or community meetings where the attitudes seem to be changing. There is a perceived commitment from several of our community-based organizations to aid in sustainability.

10) **Beyond law enforcement measures, what other institutional responses would be reasonable to achieving solutions?** Perhaps a re-evaluation of the opportunities the education system affords to the at risk youth.

If you have any questions, please call me or my Chief of Staff, Commander Robert Luna at extension 87301.

AWB/RGL/kr
Intercultural 3

attachment

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS BY COUNCIL DISTRICTS

School Name	Address	City	Zip	Type	Level	Grade Level	CD
ST ANTHONY ELEM.	855 E 5TH ST	LONG BEACH	90802	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	1-8	1
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	1000 PINE AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY-HIGH	K-12	1
ST ANTHONY HIGH	855 E 6TH ST	LONG BEACH	90802	PRIVATE	HIGH	9-12	1
SCHOOL FOR ADULTS	1794 CEDAR AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	ADULT		1
EDISON	625 MAINE AVE	LONG BEACH	90802	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	1
INTERNATIONAL	700 LOCUST AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	1
ROOSEVELT	1574 LINDEN AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	1
STEVENSON	515 LIME AVE	LONG BEACH	90802	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	1
WASHINGTON	1450 CEDAR AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	1
PAAL ACADEMY	2545 LONG BEACH BLVD	LONG BEACH		PUBLIC	HIGH	11-12	1
REID	235 E 8TH ST	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	HIGH	9-12	1
CONSTELLATION COMMUN	501 PINE AVE	LONG BEACH		PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	1
BURBANK	501 JUNIPERO ST	LONG BEACH	90814	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	2
FRANKLIN	540 CERRITOS AVE	LONG BEACH	90802	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	2
MONTESSORI CHILDRENS	5550 ATHERTON AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY		3
MONTESSORI/LONG BEACH	5454 ATHERTON ST	LONG BEACH	90815	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-2	3
CSULB	1250 BELLFLOWER BLVD	LONG BEACH	90840	PUBLIC	COLLEGE		3
FREMONT	4000 E 4TH ST	LONG BEACH	90814	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	3
KETTERING	550 SILVERA AVE	LONG BEACH	90803	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	3
LOWELL	5201 E BROADWAY	LONG BEACH		PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-8	3
MANN	257 CORONADO AVE	LONG BEACH	90803	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	3
NAPLES	5537 THE TOLEDO	LONG BEACH	90803	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	3
TINCHER	1701 PETALUMA AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	3
WILSON	4400 E 10TH ST	LONG BEACH	90804	PUBLIC	HIGH	9-12	3
JEFFERSON	750 EUCLID AVE	LONG BEACH	90804	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	3
ROGERS	365 MONROVIA AVE	LONG BEACH	90803	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	3
WALTER HILL	1100 IROQUOIS AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	3
BETHANY ELEM/PRE	2244 CLARK AVE	LONG BEACH	90808	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-6	4
HUNTINGTON SCHOOL	2935 E SPAULDING ST	LONG BEACH	90804	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-5	4
MONTESSORI MARINA	2301 XIMENO AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY		4
NAZARENE CHRISTIAN	5253 E LOS COYOTES DIA	LONG BEACH	90815	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-6	4
OUR LADY OF REFUGE	5210 LOS COYOTES DIAG	LONG BEACH	90815	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	4
BIXBY	5251 STEARNS ST	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	4
BRYANT	4101 E FOUNTIAN ST	LONG BEACH	90804	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	4
BUFFUM	2350 XIMENO AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	4
GANT	2854 BRITTON DR	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	4
LEE	1620 TEMPLE AVE	LONG BEACH	90804	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-3	4

4/21/2003

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS BY COUNCIL DISTRICTS

School Name	Address	City	Zip	Type	Level	Grade Level	CD
ST LUCY	2320 COTA AVE	LONG BEACH	90810	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	7
BIRNEY	710 W SPRING ST	LONG BEACH	90806	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	7
DANIEL WEBSTER	1755 W 32ND WAY	LONG BEACH	90810	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	7
ELIZABETH HUDSON	2335 WEBSTER AVE	LONG BEACH	90810	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	7
JAMES A. GARFIELD	2240 BALTIC AVE	LONG BEACH	90810	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	7
JOHN MUIR	3038 DELTA AVE	LONG BEACH	90810	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	7
CABRILLO	2001 SANTA FE AVE	LONG BEACH		PUBLIC	HIGH	9-12	7
SAVANAH ACADEMY	2152 W HILL ST	LONG BEACH		PUBLIC	HIGH	9TH	7
STEPHENS	1830 W COLUMBIA ST	LONG BEACH	90810	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	7
LONG BEACH ADVENTIST	4951 OREGON AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	8
LONG BEACH BRETHREN	3601 LINDEN AVE	LONG BEACH	90807	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-6	8
ST ATHANASIUS	5369 LINDEN AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	8
ST BARNABAS	3980 MARRON AVE	LONG BEACH	90807	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	8
BARTON	1100 E DEL AMO BLVD	LONG BEACH	90807	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	8
HARTE	1671 E PHILLIPS ST	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	8
JANE ADDAMS	5320 PINE AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	8
LONGFELLOW	3800 OLIVE AVE	LONG BEACH	90807	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	8
LOS CERRITOS	515 W SAN ANTONIO DR	LONG BEACH	90807	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	8
SUTTER	5075 DAISY AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	8
HUGHES	3846 CALIFORNIA AVE	LONG BEACH	90807	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	8
LINDBERGH	1022 E MARKET ST	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	8
BETHEL MIRACLE	6465 CHERRY AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-9	9
LIGHT AND LIFE	5951 DOWNEY AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-6	9
COLIN POWELL ACADEMY	150 VICTORIA ST	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-8	9
GRANT	1225 E 64TH ST	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	9
MC KINLEY	6822 PARAMOUNT BLVD	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	9
RAYMOND COLLINS	6125 COKE AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-8	9
STARR KING	145 E ARTESIA BLVD	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	9
DAVID STARR JORDAN	6500 ATLANTIC AVE	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	HIGH	9-12	9
HAMILTON	1060 E 70TH ST	LONG BEACH	90805	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	9

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS BY COUNCIL DISTRICTS

School Name	Address	City	Zip	Type	Level	Grade Level	CD
PRISK	2375 FANWOOD AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	4
TUCKER	2221 ARGONNE AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-3	4
WILLARD	1055 FREEMAN AVE	LONG BEACH	90804	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	4
STANFORD	5871 LOS ARCOS ST	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	4
LAUREL CREST GIRLS	3435 SAN ANSELINE AVE	LONG BEACH	90808	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-6	5
LOS ALTOS GRACE BRET	6565 STEARNS ST	LONG BEACH	90815	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-6	5
MONTESSORI-EUREKA	5306 ARBOR RD	LONG BEACH	90808	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-3	5
ST CORNELIUS	3330 BELLFLOWER BLVD	LONG BEACH	90808	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	5
ST CYPRIAN	5133 ARBOR RD	LONG BEACH	90808	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	5
ST JOSEPH	6200 E WILLOW ST	LONG BEACH	90815	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	5
ST MARIA GORETTI	3950 PALO VERDE AVE	LONG BEACH	90808	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	5
WESTERLY SCHOOL	2950 E 29TH ST	LONG BEACH	90806	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	5
ST ANTHONY FIELD	4800 CLARK AVE	LONG BEACH	90808	PRIVATE	FOOTBALL FIELD		5
SCHOOL FOR ADULTS	3701 E WILLOW ST	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ADULT		5
LBCC/LIBERAL ARTS	4901 E CARSON ST	LONG BEACH	90713	PUBLIC	COLLEGE		5
BURCHAM	5610 MONLACO RD	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	5
CARVER	5335 PAVO ST	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	5
CUBBERLEY	3200 MONOGRAM AVE	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-8	5
EMERSON	2625 JOSIE AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	5
HELEN KELLER	7020 BRITTAIN ST	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	5
MARK TWAIN	5201 CENTRALIA ST	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	5
NEWCOMB	3351 VAL VERDE AVE	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-8	5
PATRICK HENRY	3720 CANEHILL AVE	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	5
MILLIKAN	2800 SNOWDEN AVE	LONG BEACH	90815	PUBLIC	HIGH	9-12	5
BANCROFT	5301 CENTRALIA ST	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	5
CECIL B. DE MILLE	7025 PARKCREST ST	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-9	5
JOHN MARSHALL	5870 E WARDLOW RD	LONG BEACH	90808	PUBLIC	MIDDLE	6-8	5
CREATIVE ARTS	1423 WALNUT AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-6	6
HOLY INNOCENTS	2500 PACIFIC AVE	LONG BEACH	90806	PRIVATE	ELEMENTARY	K-8	6
CHRISTIAN LIBERTY AC	2429 PACIFIC AVE	LONG BEACH	90806	PRIVATE			6
LBCC/PHC	1305 E PACIFIC COAST	LONG BEACH	90806	PUBLIC	COLLEGE		6
BURNETT	565 E HILL ST	LONG BEACH	90806	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	6
LAFAYETTE	2445 CHESTNUT AVE	LONG BEACH	90806	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	6
LINCOLN	1175 E 11TH ST	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	6
MARY BUTLER	1400 E 20TH ST	LONG BEACH	90806	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-8	6
ROBINSON	2750 PINE AVE	LONG BEACH	90806	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-8	6
WHITTIER	1761 WALNUT AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	ELEMENTARY	K-5	6
POLY	1600 ATLANTIC AVE	LONG BEACH	90813	PUBLIC	HIGH	9-12	6

4/21/2003

4 APPENDIX: D

South Coast Ecumenical Council
Racialized Gang Violence Questionnaire
Response Summary February 19, 2003

1. *Name three (3) reasons that you believe contribute to racial and ethnic intolerance among our youth.*

    a. Youth are frustrated with their situation of poverty, etc.
    b. The wide-ranging violence in our society.
    c. See Bowling for Columbine (Moore 2002).
    d. Families promote divisive racial attitudes.
    e. Friends.
    f. Gang and peer pressure.
    g. Broken homes, abused children, and dysfunctional family relationships.
    h. Racial attitudes that affect cultural, economical, political, and social perceptions.
    i. Prejudice of one ethnic group against the other.
    j. Home-based "learning" and hatred of others.
    k. Youth are looking for ways to show "identity/power/bravery."
    l. Some youth have an overwhelming desire to "be like others" in hatred, even if he/she does not share that belief.
    m. Media generalization.
    n. There is a lack of education focusing on tolerance/multi-ethnic issues due to untrained teachers on the issues.
    o. Parental fears of job lost and other economic concerns contribute to youth opinions.

2. *Name three (3) reasons that you believe contributed to the escalation of gang violence.*

    a. Glorification of violence in media.
    b. Poor economic conditions.
    c. Poverty.
    d. Racism.
    e. Prejudice and misunderstanding.
    f. Gangs offer youth a sense of security, belonging, recognition and power.
    g. Gangs offer a sense of release from fear, anger and frustration toward other ethnic groups.
    h. Access to money, friendship, companionship, drugs, guns, etc.
    i. A breakdown in family support (i.e., parents are working, leaving youth without adequate supervision).

j. Boredom with school (not all are meant to be students with college as a goal).
k. Youth are looking for identity and excitement.
l. Economic fears.
m. Lack of understanding of differences.
n. Inadequate gun and drug community removal programs.

3. *Please identify three (3) primary ways racialized gang violence or youth violence has impacted your parishioners and the local community in which you serve.*

    a. Some children who receive tutoring have brothers and sisters that are involved in gangs.
    b. The elderly fear being out at night.
    c. Cars are vandalized in the parking lot.
    d. Graffiti.
    e. People are fearful in their residences and places of business.
    f. The violence has a negative impact on physicians and patients utilizing the facilities of the local downtown hospital, i.e., St. Mary's Medical Center.
    g. The increase in gang deaths and injuries as well as and accidental deaths and injuries to innocent victims.
    h. There is a fear and mistrust of youth.
    i. Some parishioners are relatively "shielded" from low-economic areas, yet they acknowledge that their school children are affected.

4. *Name three (3) ways in which your church, synagogue, or mosque has responded to this crisis.*

    a. Tutoring.
    b. Building appropriate space for children and youth activities.
    c. Diocesan program, "Hands in Healing."
    d. Prayer for all youth.
    e. Discuss relevant topics in youth groups.
    f. Youth violence education programs on campus at St. Mary Medical Center.
    g. Deploying a trained youth group, such as, EM3 (Educated Men with Meaningful Messages), to go into the community to educate teens and set a good example.
    h. Recreational outings and games where all ethnic groups participated.
    i. Offer part-time jobs.
    j. Invite to youth functions.
    k. Beg businesses to offer partnerships with schools.
    l. Held an information series on multi-cultural and multi-religious points of view to bring understanding.
    m. Studied a video on the Civil Rights 1960's movement and discussed with youth the importance of standing up for justice issues.

n. Send donations to Bread for the World and Church World Service, charitable organizations, and contribute to other outreach activities, e.g., Shalom Zone Center in Long Beach.

5. *Please identify three (3) immediate interventions that are needed to resolve the racialized violence and promote peacemaking in the neighborhoods where the violence is occurring.*

    a. Get guns off streets; make guns inaccessible.
    b. Hire well-paid City people to work with these young people with resources (educational, sports, etc.) to support to the effort.
    c. After school programs for education and recreation.
    d. Family awareness and support.
    e. Community awareness programs.
    f. Education to meet the social, spiritual, psychological and emotional needs of traumatized victims whatever the cause.
    g. Educate to take down the walls and barriers between ethnic groups.
    h. Heighten the awareness of the consequences of their actions and being held accountable with the goal to educate and bring emotional and spiritual healing.
    i. Businesses and schools should cooperate to offer meaningful options.
    j. Offer employment opportunities; provide safe places to congregate; and show high school freshmen and sophomores how to develop effective study habits to make better grades.
    k. Interfaith community gang-intervention groups.
    l. Prayer.
    m. While some parishioners were unaware of other options, they would appreciate knowing how to help.

5 APPENDIX: E

Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
Racialized Gang Violence Questionnaire
Response Summary February 19, 2003

1. *Name three (3) reasons that you believe contribute to racial and ethnic intolerance among our youth.*

    - Families who hate people different from themselves.
    - Judging without knowing the facts.
    - Thinking of self as being superior to other races.

2. *Name three (3) reasons that you believe contributed to the escalation of gang violence.*

    - Unable to understand that people who are different should be respected.
    - Too much free time without doing something worthwhile.
    - Hate is taught at an early age.

3. *Please identify three (3) primary ways racialized gang violence or youth violence has impacted your family, association, business, organization or the local community in which you serve.*

    - Hate crimes, graffiti.
    - Leaving trash in front of neighbors' houses.
    - Stealing cars in the neighborhood.

4. *Name three (3) ways in which your family, organization, association or business has responded to this crisis.*

    - Restoring the neighborhoods while hoping time will change things.
    - Cleaning debris from the neighborhood and asking City departments for assistance.
    - Reporting incidents to the Police Department's Community Relations Division.

5. *Please identify any agencies, associations, businesses, groups, key individual(s), organizations and/or religious institutions, which need to be involved to address racialized gang violence.*

    - Police Department.
    - Neighborhood groups.
    - Churches.

6. *Please identify three (3) funding sources that would be beneficial to alleviating gang violence.*

   - Use grants that target programs for children ages 3-5 to teach respect for each other regardless of race.
   - Use grants to train parents how to stop teaching their children to hate others in their neighborhoods.

7. *Please identify three (3) immediate interventions that are needed to resolve the racialized violence and promote peacemaking in the neighborhoods where the violence is occurring.*

   - All city funded programs should include all races.
   - City funded community programs designed to address the problem should include all races living in the impacted areas.
   - Discontinue busing different racial and ethnic groups on separate buses to school.

6 APPENDIX: F

"Choices for Youth Preventing Youth Violence Survey," conducted by CORAL Long Beach Youth Institute High School Students (2002).

Choices For Youth
Preventing Youth Violence Survey
Done By: CORAL Long Beach Youth Institute High School Students

High School Students Surveyed
TOTAL: 474
Male:198
Female:276

ETHNICITY
White:73
Asian:112
Hispanic or Latino:142
Black or African American:80
Multi-racial:50
Other:17

Do you personally know a young person that has been a victim of violence?
YES:294 NO:178 Did not answer:2

Have you ever been a victim of violence?
YES: 154 NO:316 Did not answer:4

How many acts of physical violence do you witness at school in a given week?
NONE149 1-3 199 4-6 51 7-10 14 higher 17

How many acts of physical violence do you witness in your neighborhood in a given week?
NONE: 243 1- 3 136 4-6 51 7-10 9 higher 30

Can you get a gun? YES: 149 NO: 322

How much do you worry about your safety and violence happening such as a student bringing a gun to school?

A great deal 149 A fair amount 103 Just a little 130 Do not worry 90

On most school days do you have adult supervision between the hours of 3:00pm and 6:00pm? YES: 268 NO:169

Do you personally know a young person who has died because of an act of violence?
YES: 215 NO: 267

During the last twelve months, have you been teased or harassed by peers at school?

A great deal 29 A fair amount 55 Just a little 152 Not at all 241

7 APPENDIX: G

Letter from Long Beach Coalition for the Prevention of Gun Violence, dated January 24, 2003.

Long Beach Coalition for Prevention of Gun Violence

13451 St. Andrews Dr. #124H - Seal Beach, CA 90740

dckagin@adelphia.net

"Our mission is the deterrence of gun violence, ongoing community education and advocacy"

Lydia A. Hollie,Chair
Human Relations Commission
Dept. of Health and Human Services
2525 Grand Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90815

January 25, 2003

Dear Lydia,

Our coalition wants to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to come and speak with us. And we appreciate your efforts in leading the Human Relations Commission.

After discussing the issue further regarding the distressing rate of gun deaths in our city, we came up with an idea that we would like to share with you and hope that you would consider including in your recommendations to the City Council.

Our idea is to create a campaign for to make Long Beach "A Gun Free Zone City."

We recognize that there are many important factors contributing to the increased gun death rate in our city and we believe one of these is increased gun accessibility. In light of that, we would like to involve the community in a new vision and new strategies for "a gun free city".

We want a city that has a positive national and international reputation and most importantly, as you said, we want a safe, nurturing place for our children and youth.

If you would like to discuss this further, please call me at (562) 596-0837.

Sincerely,

Sharon Loeschen

Sharon Loeschen

8 APPENDIX: H

City of Long Beach Census 2000, Demographic Profile by Council District.

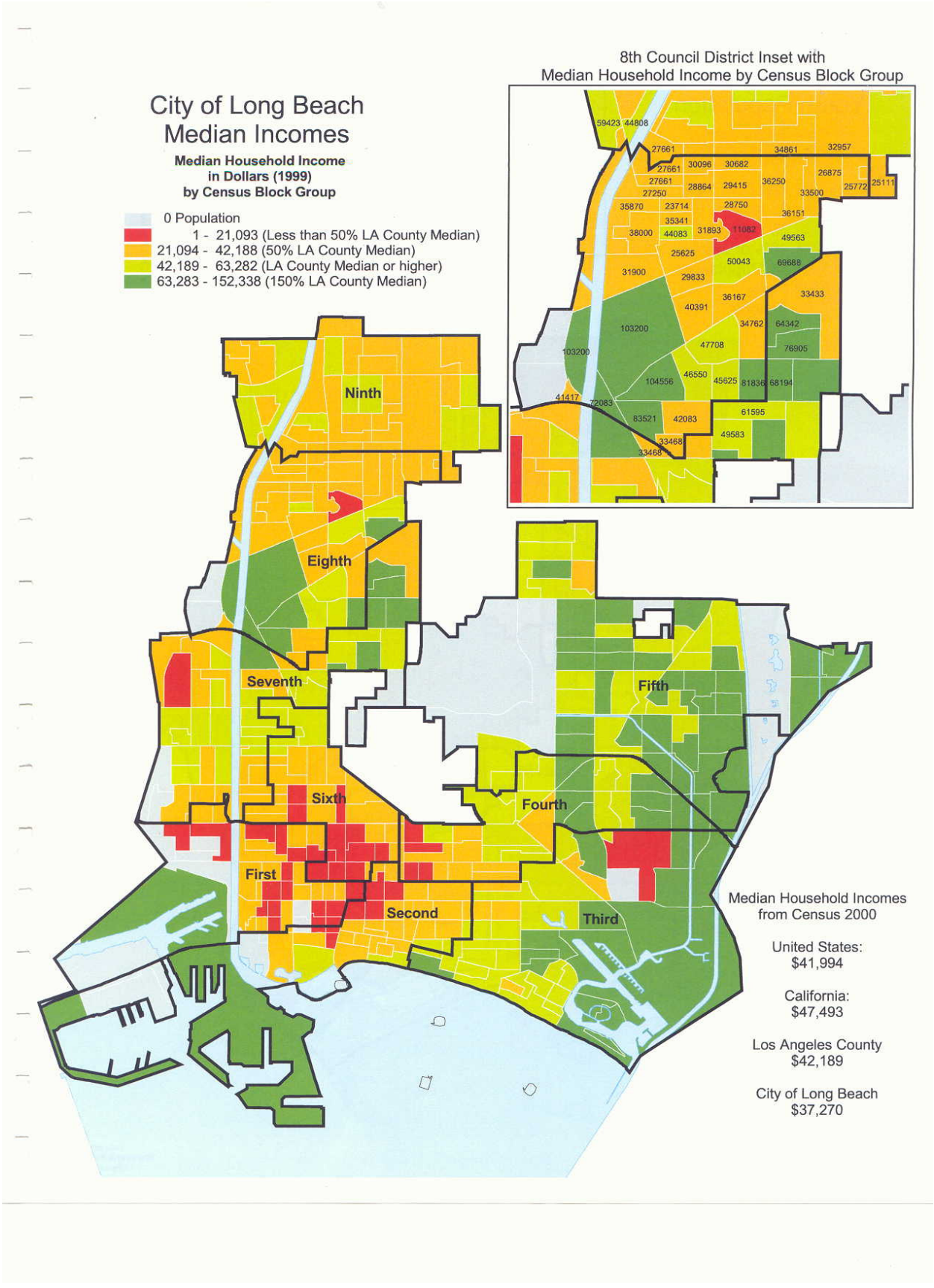
City of Long Beach Median Incomes, 2002.

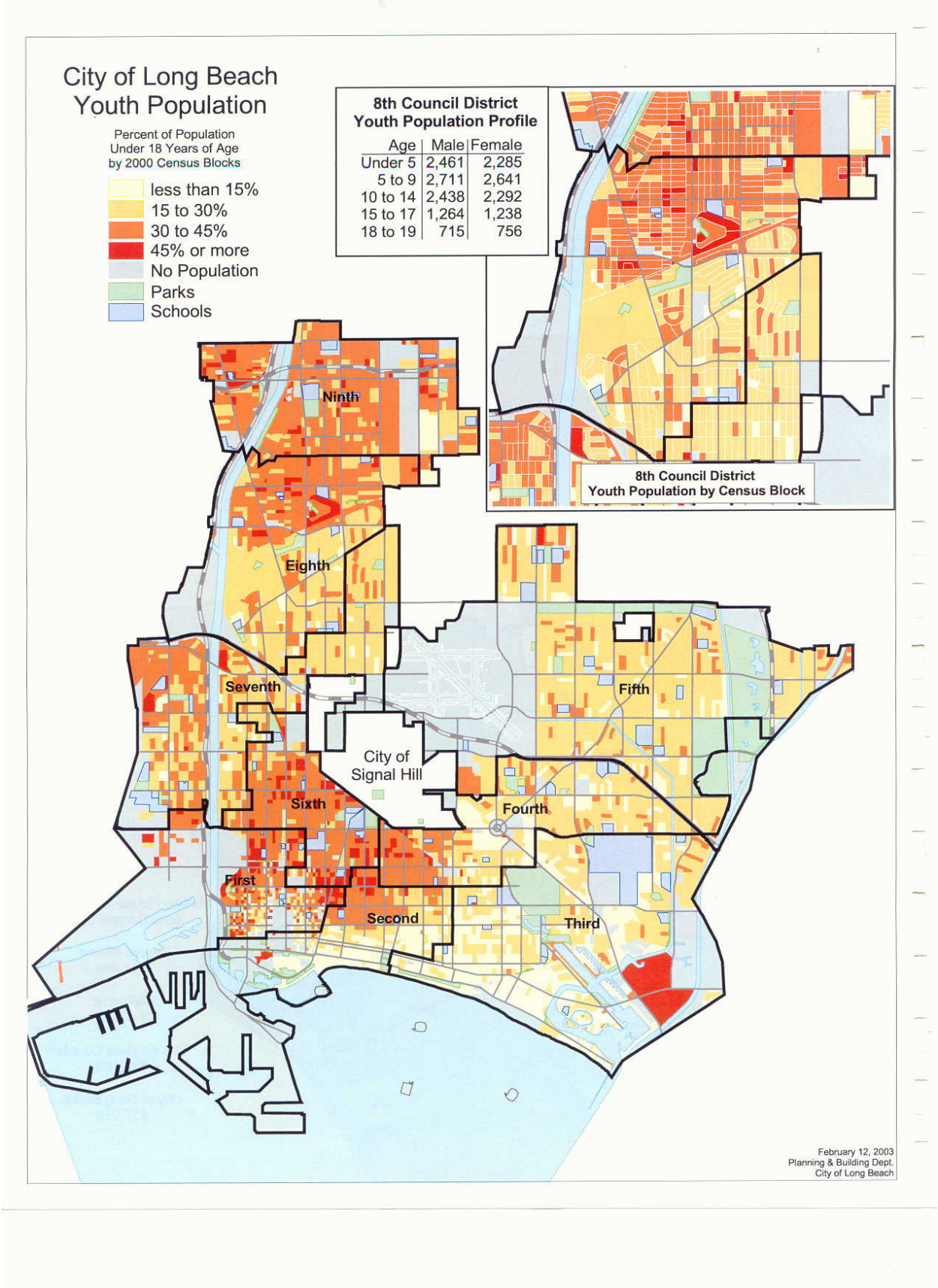
City of Long Beach Youth Population, 2002.

Crime and Census, a presentation to the Chief's Advisory Group Conference, Long Beach Police Academy, February 8, 2003, Deputy Chief Tim Jackman.

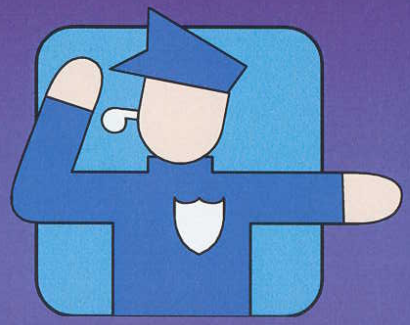
City of Long Beach
Census 2000
Demographic Profile by Council District

	City of Long Beach		1st Council District		2nd Council District		3rd Council District		4th Council District		5th Council District		6th Council District		7th Council District		8th Council District		9th Council District	
Total Population	461,522		49,979		53,536		51,089		52,198		49,129		49,492		49,681		52,684		53,734	
Sex and Age																				
Male	226,718	49.1%	25,820	51.7%	27,364	51.1%	24,860	48.7%	25,158	48.2%	23,743	48.3%	24,288	49.1%	23,956	48.2%	25,024	47.5%	26,505	49.3%
Female	234,804	50.9%	24,159	48.3%	26,172	48.9%	26,229	51.3%	27,040	51.8%	25,386	51.7%	25,204	50.9%	25,725	51.8%	27,660	52.5%	27,229	50.7%
under 18 years	134,639	29.2%	18,062	36.1%	13,269	24.8%	6,319	12.4%	14,774	28.3%	11,491	23.4%	19,676	39.8%	14,190	28.6%	17,330	32.9%	19,528	36.3%
18 to 64 years	284,981	61.7%	29,294	58.6%	36,332	67.9%	38,082	74.5%	33,321	63.8%	29,621	60.3%	27,305	55.2%	29,318	59.0%	30,552	58.0%	31,156	58.0%
65 years and over	41,902	9.1%	2,623	5.2%	3,935	7.4%	6,688	13.1%	4,103	7.9%	8,017	16.3%	2,511	5.1%	6,173	12.4%	4,802	9.1%	3,050	5.7%
Median Age	30.8		25.7 (est.)		30.3 (est.)		39.2 (est.)		29.4 (est.)		39.2 (est.)		24.3 (est.)		34.0 (est.)		30.8 (est.)		27.2 (est.)	
Ethnicity/Race																				
Hispanic	165,092	35.8%	32,567	65.2%	20,318	38.0%	5,531	10.8%	16,482	31.6%	6,427	13.1%	24,548	49.6%	14,928	30.0%	18,092	34.3%	26,199	48.8%
White	152,899	33.1%	5,798	11.6%	17,883	33.4%	38,946	76.2%	19,059	36.5%	36,127	73.5%	2,691	5.4%	11,159	22.5%	13,127	24.9%	8,109	15.1%
Black	66,836	14.5%	6,750	13.5%	7,791	14.6%	1,602	3.1%	6,648	12.7%	1,366	2.8%	10,057	20.3%	9,168	18.5%	11,572	22.0%	11,882	22.1%
American Indian	1,772	0.4%	268	0.5%	278	0.5%	192	0.4%	188	0.4%	158	0.3%	128	0.3%	176	0.4%	225	0.4%	159	0.3%
Asian	54,937	11.9%	3,096	6.2%	4,967	9.3%	3,117	6.1%	7,629	14.6%	3,346	6.8%	10,009	20.2%	11,433	23.0%	6,834	13.0%	4,506	8.4%
Pacific Islander	5,392	1.2%	377	0.8%	258	0.5%	133	0.3%	206	0.4%	134	0.3%	598	1.2%	1,152	2.3%	1,128	2.1%	1,406	2.6%
Other	1,013	0.2%	71	0.1%	186	0.3%	156	0.3%	146	0.3%	110	0.2%	50	0.1%	100	0.2%	95	0.2%	99	0.2%
2 or more races	13,581	2.9%	1,052	2.1%	1,855	3.5%	1,412	2.8%	1,840	3.5%	1,461	3.0%	1,411	2.9%	1,565	3.2%	1,611	3.1%	1,374	2.6%
Housing																				
Housing Units	171,632		16,937		24,850		27,329		19,478		19,019		14,226		15,949		18,356		15,488	
Owner Occupied	66,928	39.0%	2,016	11.9%	4,633	18.6%	12,212	44.7%	6,062	31.1%	15,278	80.3%	2,844	20.0%	8,862	55.6%	7,448	40.6%	7,573	48.9%
Renter Occupied	96,160	56.0%	13,547	80.0%	18,645	75.0%	13,863	50.7%	12,646	64.9%	3,421	18.0%	10,342	72.7%	6,481	40.6%	10,040	54.7%	7,175	46.3%
Vacant	8,544	5.0%	1,374	8.1%	1,572	6.3%	1,254	4.6%	770	4.0%	320	1.7%	1,040	7.3%	606	3.8%	868	4.7%	740	4.8%
Total Households	163,088		15,563		23,278		26,075		18,708		18,699		13,186		15,343		17,488		14,748	
Ave. Household Size	2.77		3.12		2.24		1.87		2.73		2.60		3.72		3.13		2.97		3.61	


City of Long Beach
Median Incomes
Median Household Income
in Dollars (1999)
by Census Block Group
0 Population
1 - 21,093 (Less than 50% LA County Median)
21,094 - 42,188 (50% LA County Median)
42,189 - 63,282 (LA County Median or higher)
63,283 - 152,338 (150% LA County Median)
8th Council District Inset with
Median Household Income by Census Block Group
59423 44808
27661
34861
32957
27661
30096
30682
27661
26875
27250
28864
29415
36250
33500
25772
25111
35870
23714
28750
36151
35341
38000
44083
31893
11082
49563
25625
50043
69688
31900
29833
36167
33433
40391
103200
34762
64342
47708
76905
46550
104556
45625
81836
68194
41417
72083
61595
83521
42083
49583
33468
33468
Ninth
Eighth
Seventh
Fifth
Sixth
Fourth
First
Second
Third
Median Household Incomes
from Census 2000
United States:
$41,994
California:
$47,493
Los Angeles County
$42,189
City of Long Beach
$37,270

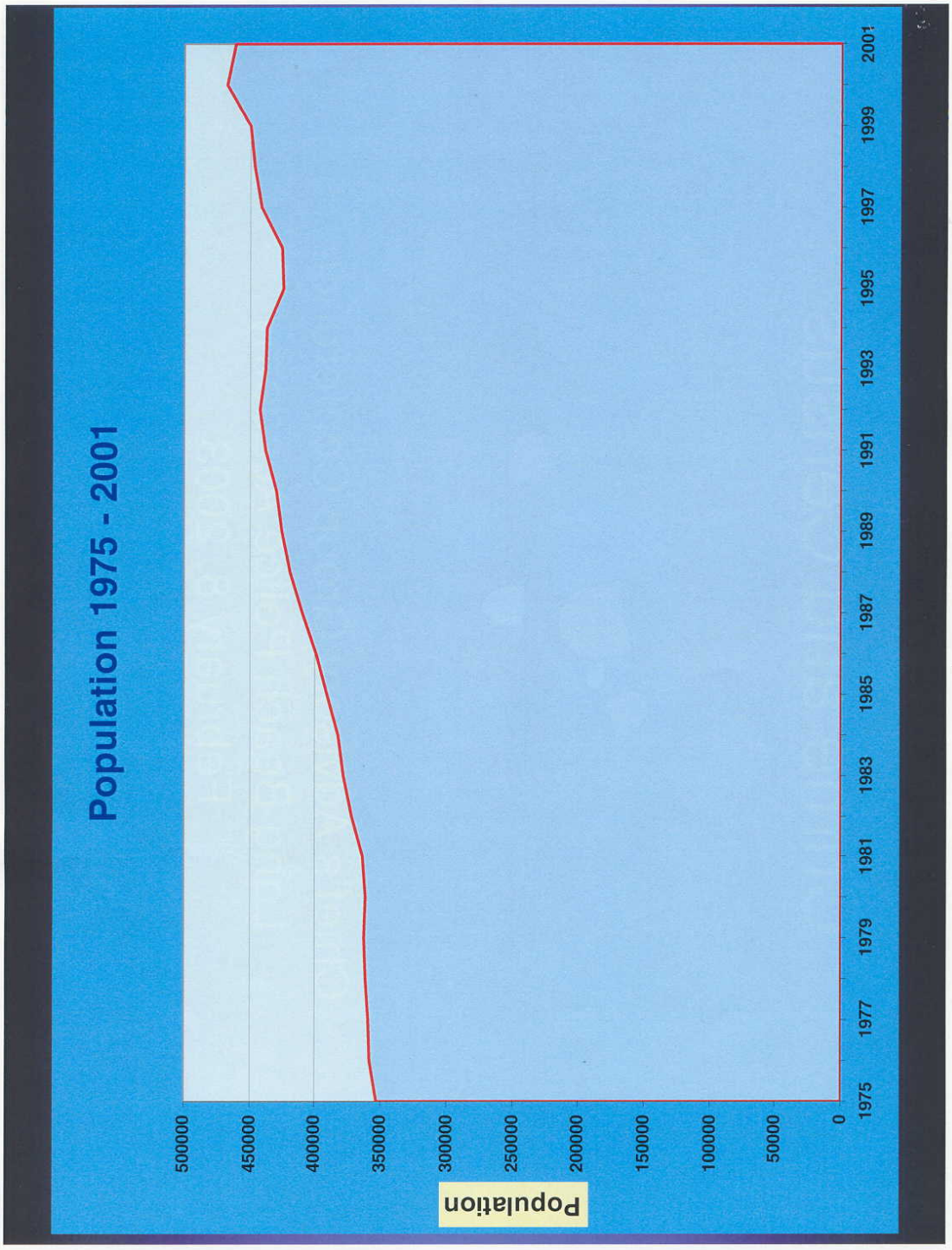

City of Long Beach
Youth Population
Percent of Population
Under 18 Years of Age
by 2000 Census Blocks
less than 15%
15 to 30%
30 to 45%
45% or more
No Population
Parks
Schools
8th Council District
Youth Population Profile
Age | Male | Female
Under 5 | 2,461 | 2,285
5 to 9 | 2,711 | 2,641
10 to 14 | 2,438 | 2,292
15 to 17 | 1,264 | 1,238
18 to 19 | 715 | 756
8th Council District
Youth Population by Census Block
Ninth
Eighth
Seventh
Fifth
City of
Signal Hill
Sixth
Fourth
First
Second
Third
February 12, 2003
Planning & Building Dept.
City of Long Beach

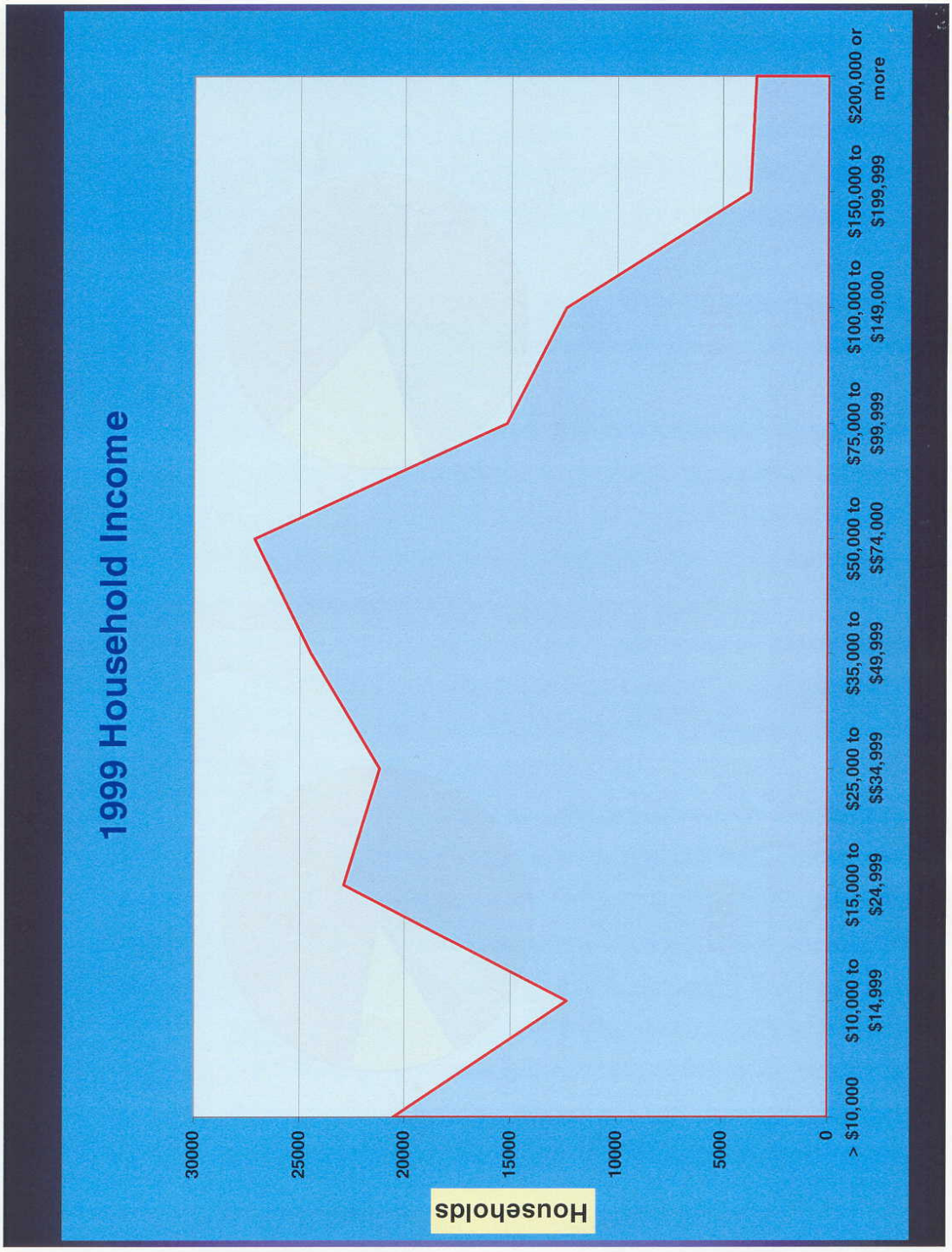
Crime and Census

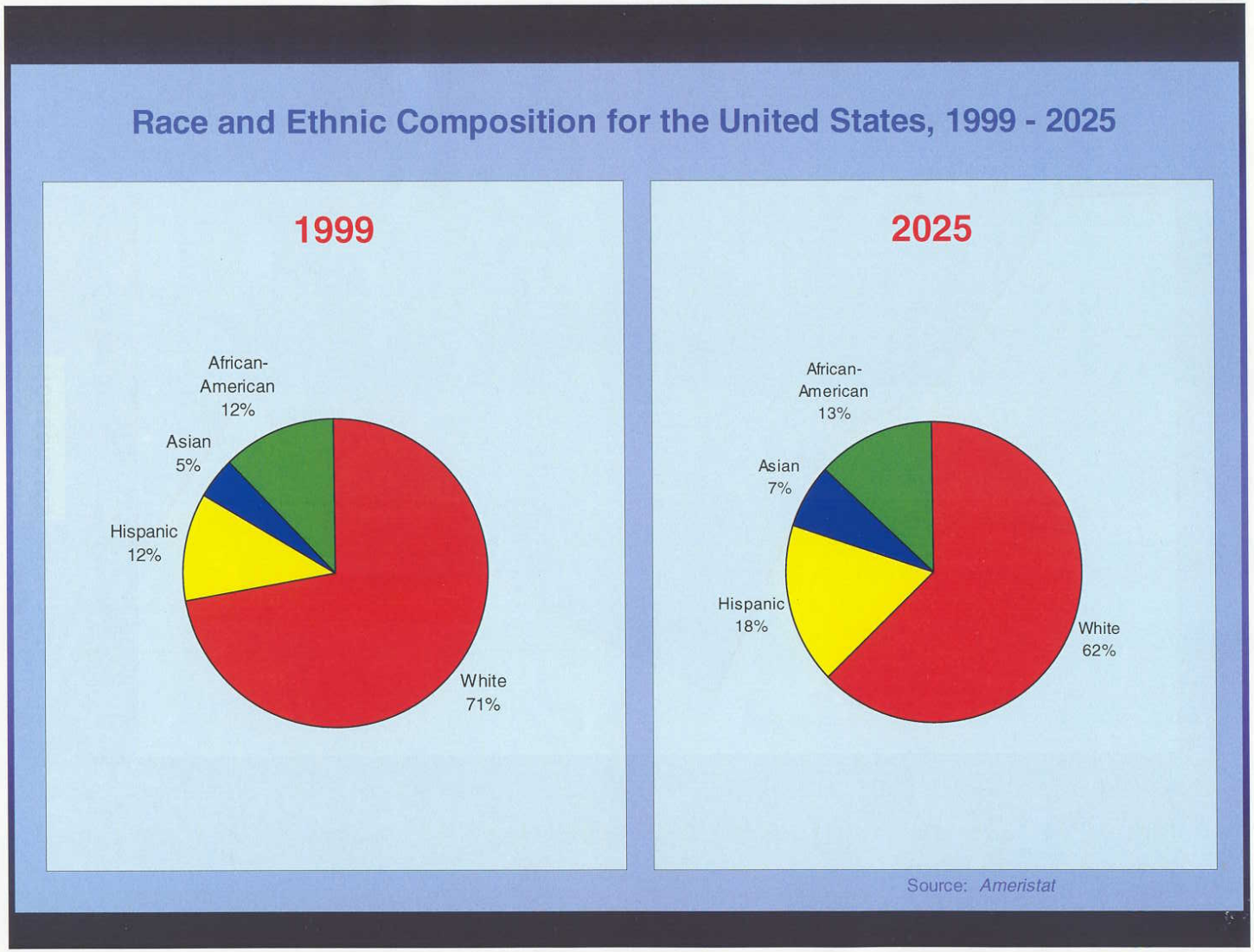


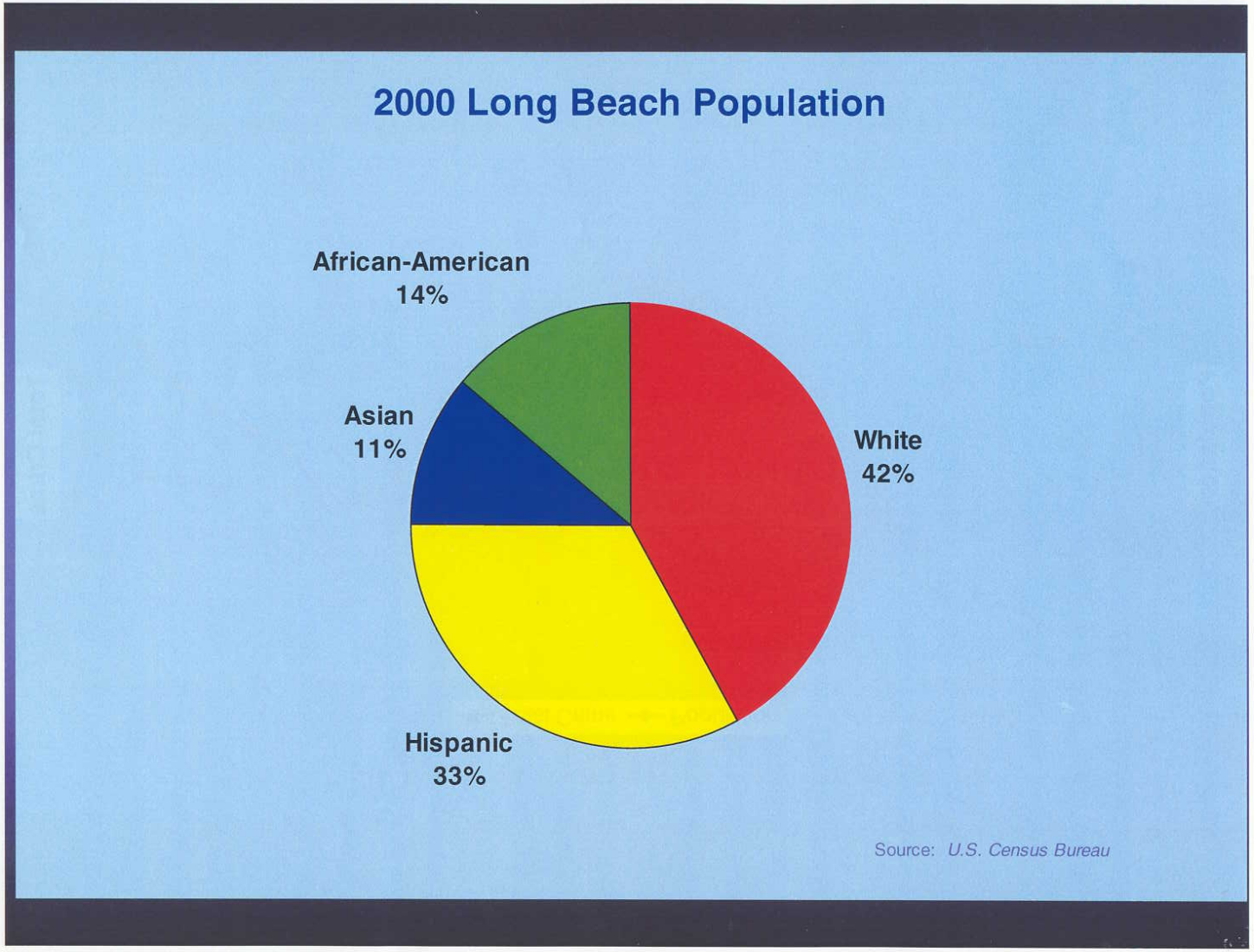
Chief's Advisory Group Conference
Long Beach Police Academy
February 8, 2003

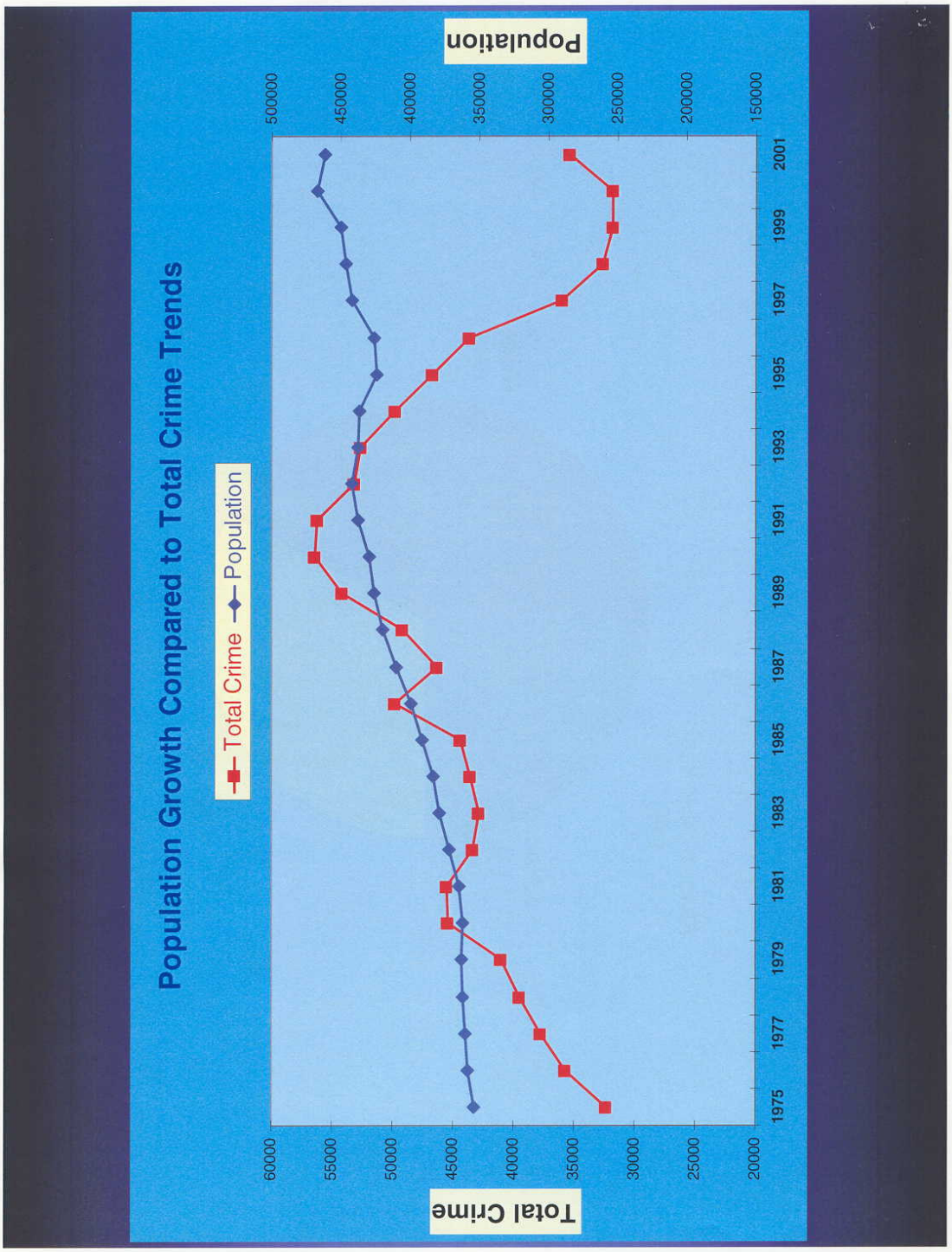
Deputy Chief Tim Jackman

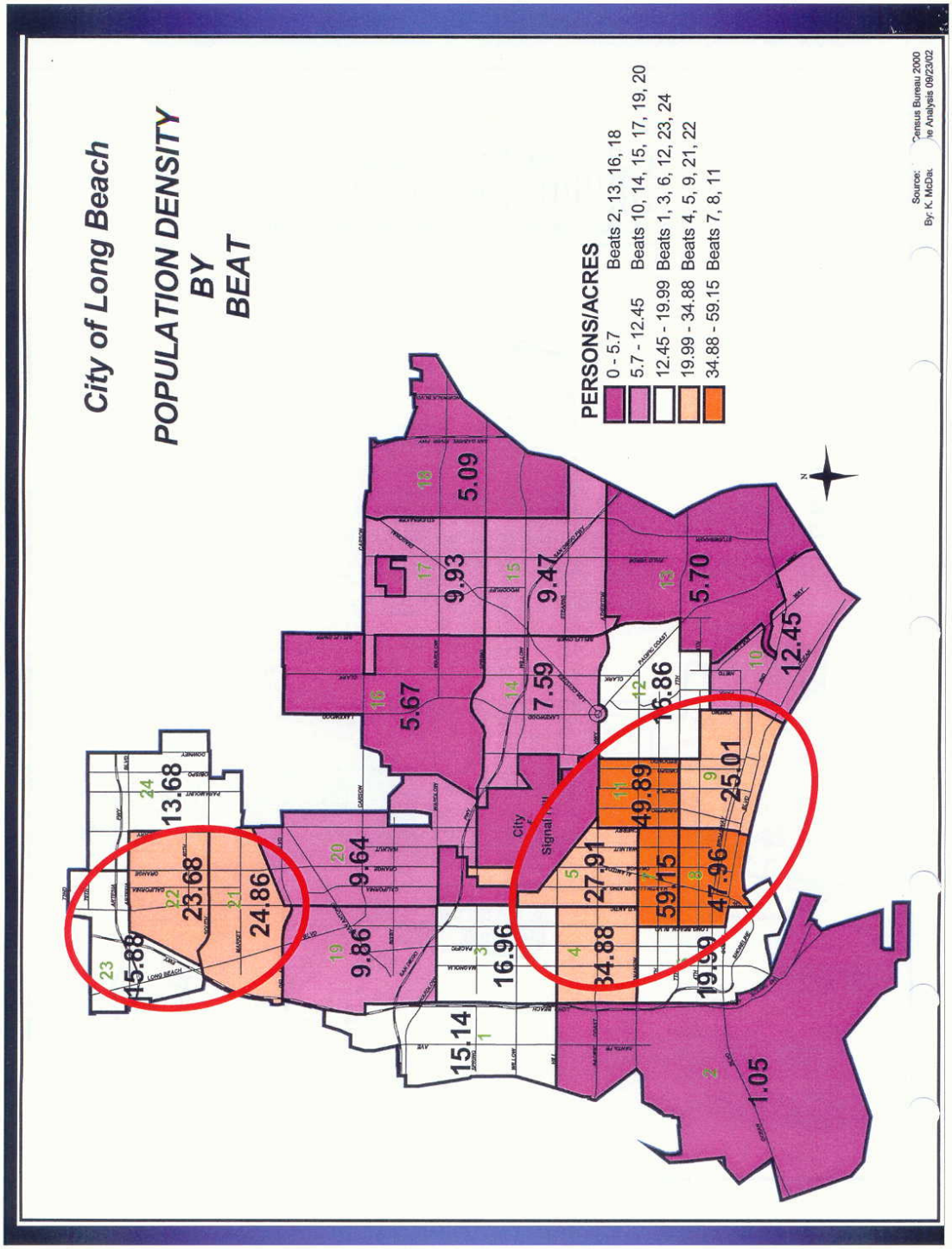

Population 1975 - 2001
Population
500000
450000
400000
350000
300000
250000
200000
150000
100000
50000
0
1975
1977
1979
1981
1983
1985
1987
1989
1991
1993
1995
1997
1999
2001

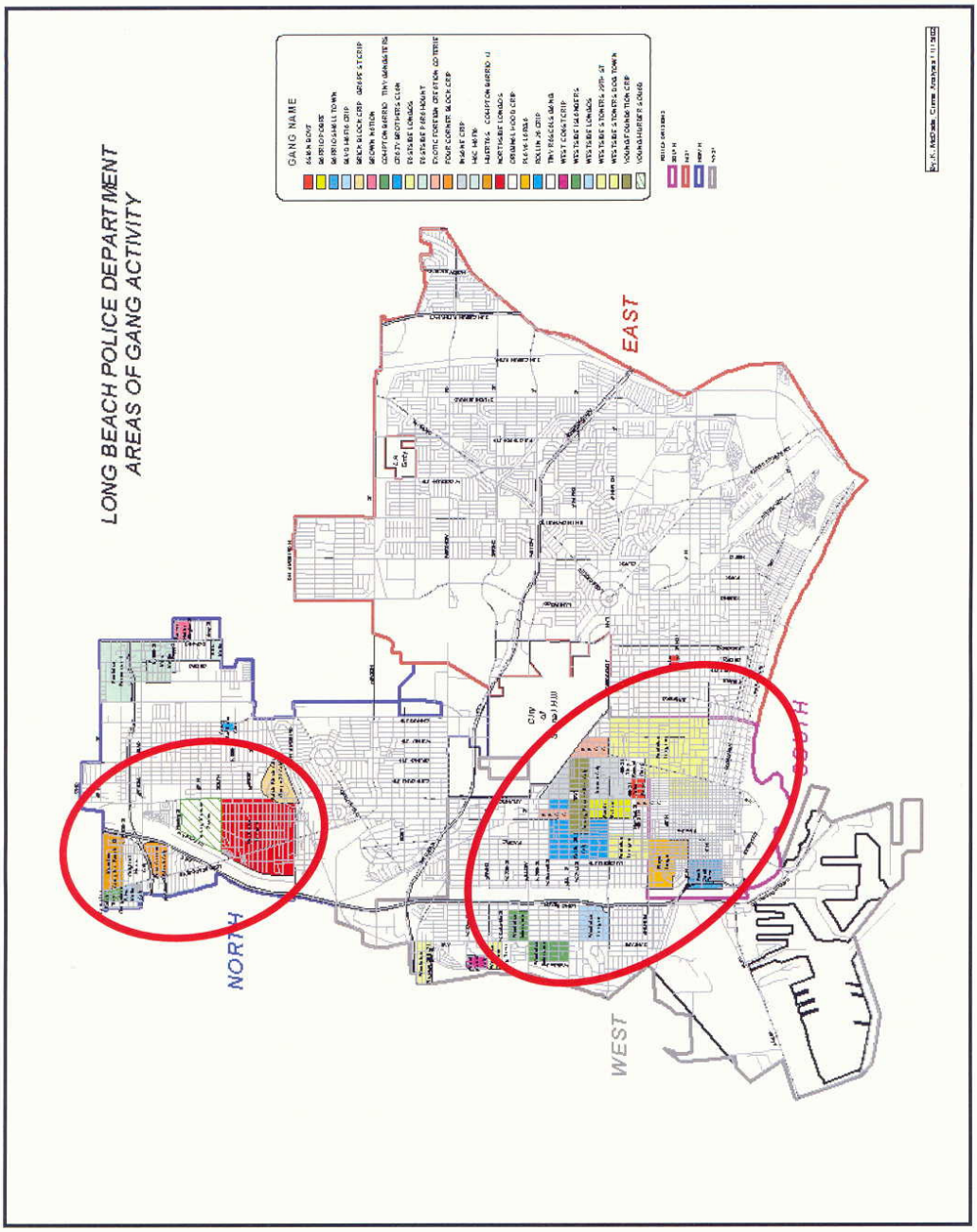

1999 Household Income
Households
30000
25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0
> $10,000
$10,000 to $14,999
$15,000 to $24,999
$25,000 to $$34,999
$35,000 to $49,999
$50,000 to $$74,000
$75,000 to $99,999
$100,000 to $149,000
$150,000 to $199,999
$200,000 or more

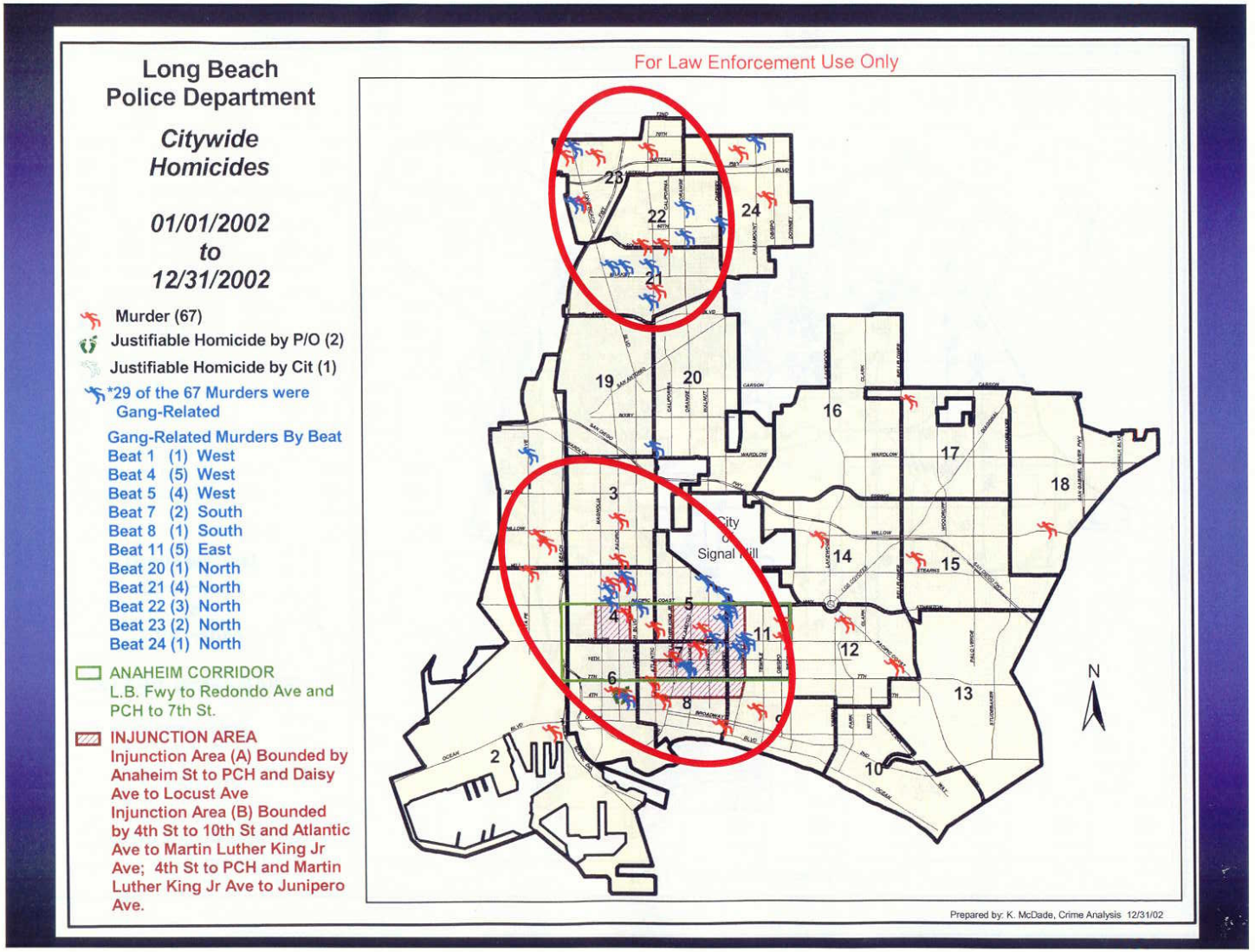

Race and Ethnic Composition for the United States, 1999 - 2025
1999
African-American 12%
Asian 5%
Hispanic 12%
White 71%
2025
African-American 13%
Asian 7%
Hispanic 18%
White 62%
Source: Ameristat


2000 Long Beach Population
African-American
14%
Asian
11%
White
42%
Hispanic
33%
Source: U.S. Census Bureau


Population Growth Compared to Total Crime Trends
Total Crime
Population
60000
55000
50000
45000
40000
35000
30000
25000
20000
500000
450000
400000
350000
300000
250000
200000
150000
1975
1977
1979
1981
1983
1985
1987
1989
1991
1993
1995
1997
1999
2001


City of Long Beach
POPULATION DENSITY
BY
BEAT
PERSONS/ACRES
0 - 5.7 Beats 2, 13, 16, 18
5.7 - 12.45 Beats 10, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20
12.45 - 19.99 Beats 1, 3, 6, 12, 23, 24
19.99 - 34.88 Beats 4, 5, 9, 21, 22
34.88 - 59.15 Beats 7, 8, 11
Source: Census Bureau 2000
By: K. McDa... ...e Analysis 09/23/02
5.09
9.93
9.47
5.70
12.45
5.67
7.59
16.86
13.68
49.89
25.01
9.64
27.91
59.15
47.96
23.68
24.86
15.88
9.86
16.96
34.88
19.99
15.14
1.05
City
Signal Hill


LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
AREAS OF GANG ACTIVITY
GANG NAME
EAST
NORTH
SOUTH
WEST


Long Beach
Police Department
Citywide
Homicides
01/01/2002
to
12/31/2002
Murder (67)
Justifiable Homicide by P/O (2)
Justifiable Homicide by Cit (1)
*29 of the 67 Murders were Gang-Related
Gang-Related Murders By Beat
Beat 1 (1) West
Beat 4 (5) West
Beat 5 (4) West
Beat 7 (2) South
Beat 8 (1) South
Beat 11 (5) East
Beat 20 (1) North
Beat 21 (4) North
Beat 22 (3) North
Beat 23 (2) North
Beat 24 (1) North
ANAHEIM CORRIDOR
L.B. Fwy to Redondo Ave and PCH to 7th St.
INJUNCTION AREA
Injunction Area (A) Bounded by Anaheim St to PCH and Daisy Ave to Locust Ave
Injunction Area (B) Bounded by 4th St to 10th St and Atlantic Ave to Martin Luther King Jr Ave; 4th St to PCH and Martin Luther King Jr Ave to Junipero Ave.
For Law Enforcement Use Only
Signal Hill
N
Prepared by: K. McDade, Crime Analysis 12/31/02

For Law Enforcement Use Only

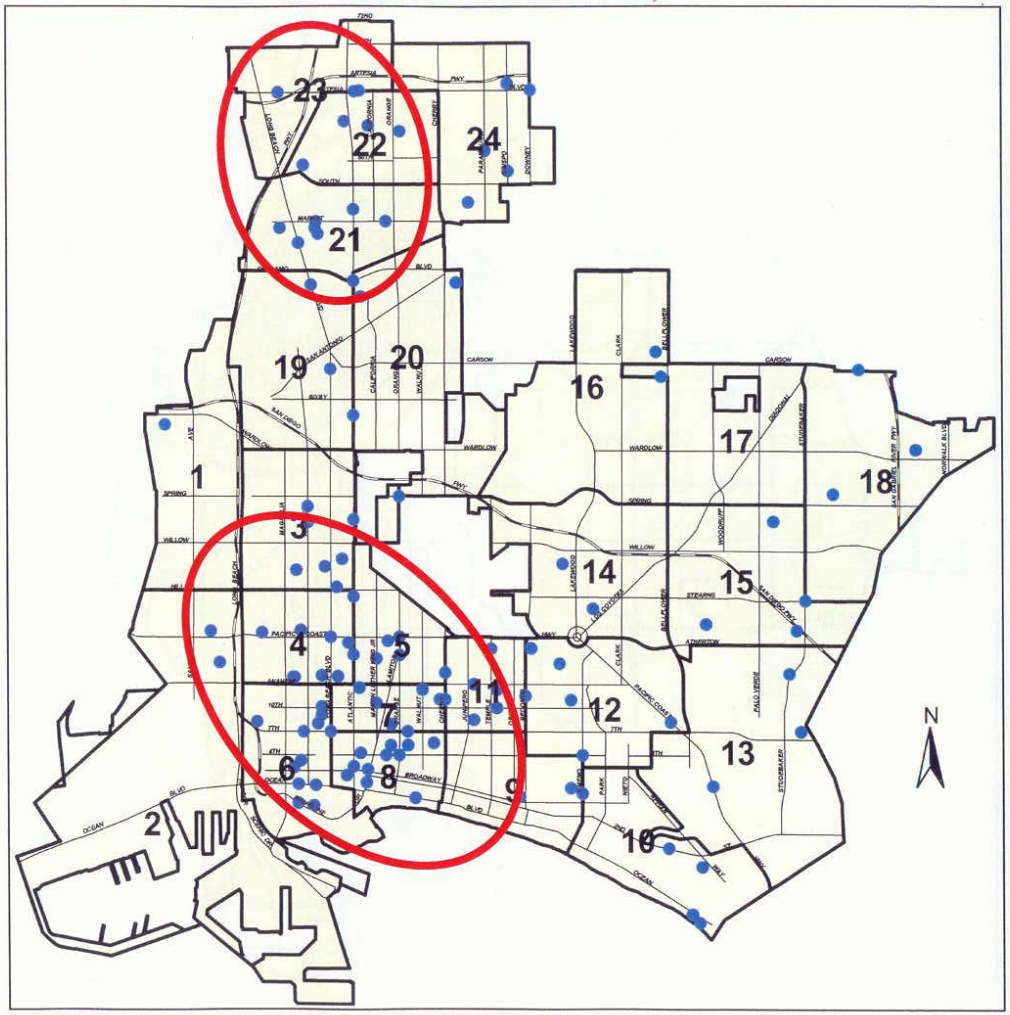
Long Beach Police Department

Citywide

CITYWIDE RAPES

01/01/2002 to 12/31/2002

● RAPES (123)



Preliminary Data Only

For Law Enforcement Use Only

Long Beach Police Department

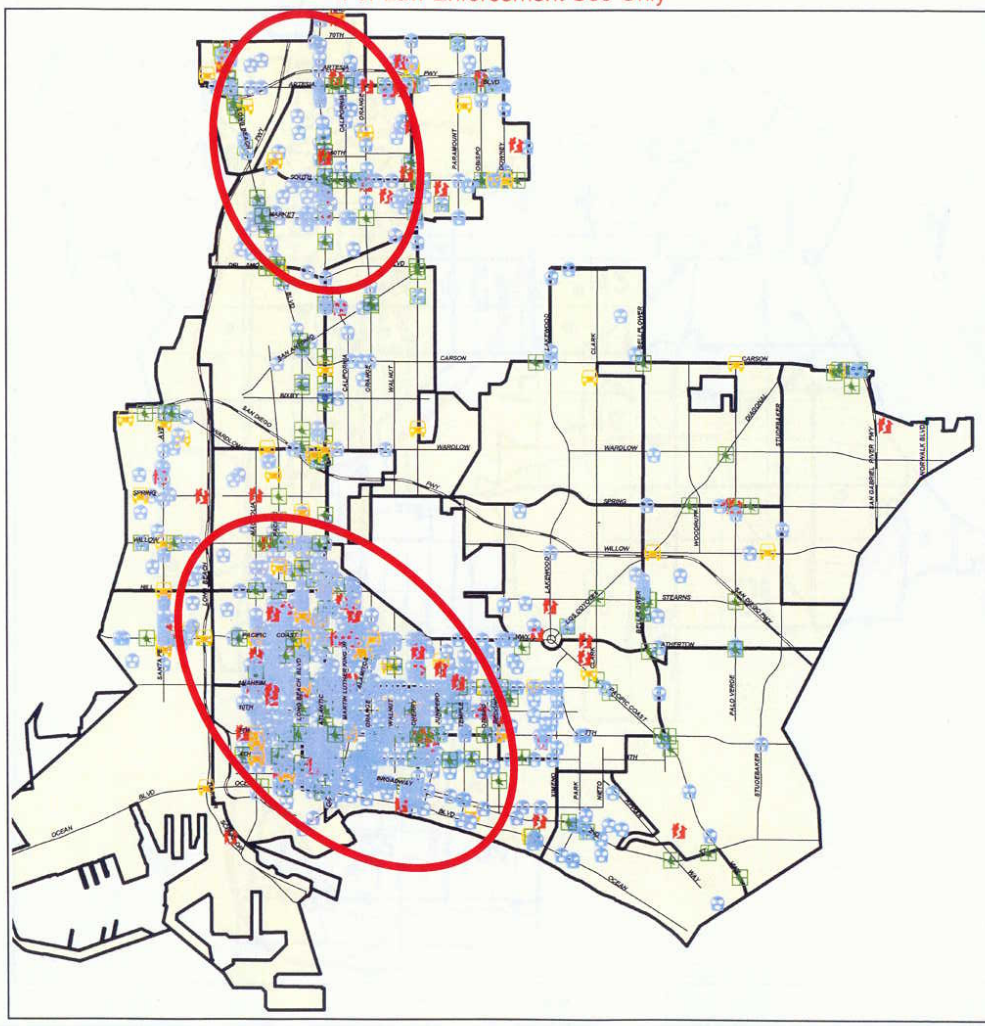
Citywide

Robberies

01/01/2002 to 12/31/2002

Selected Crimes
- Residential (72)
- ATM (3)
- Commercial (262)
- All Others (1073)
- Carjacking (78)

Preliminary Data Only



For Law Enforcement Use Only

Long Beach Police Department

LONG BEACH ACTIVE PAROLEE POPULATION

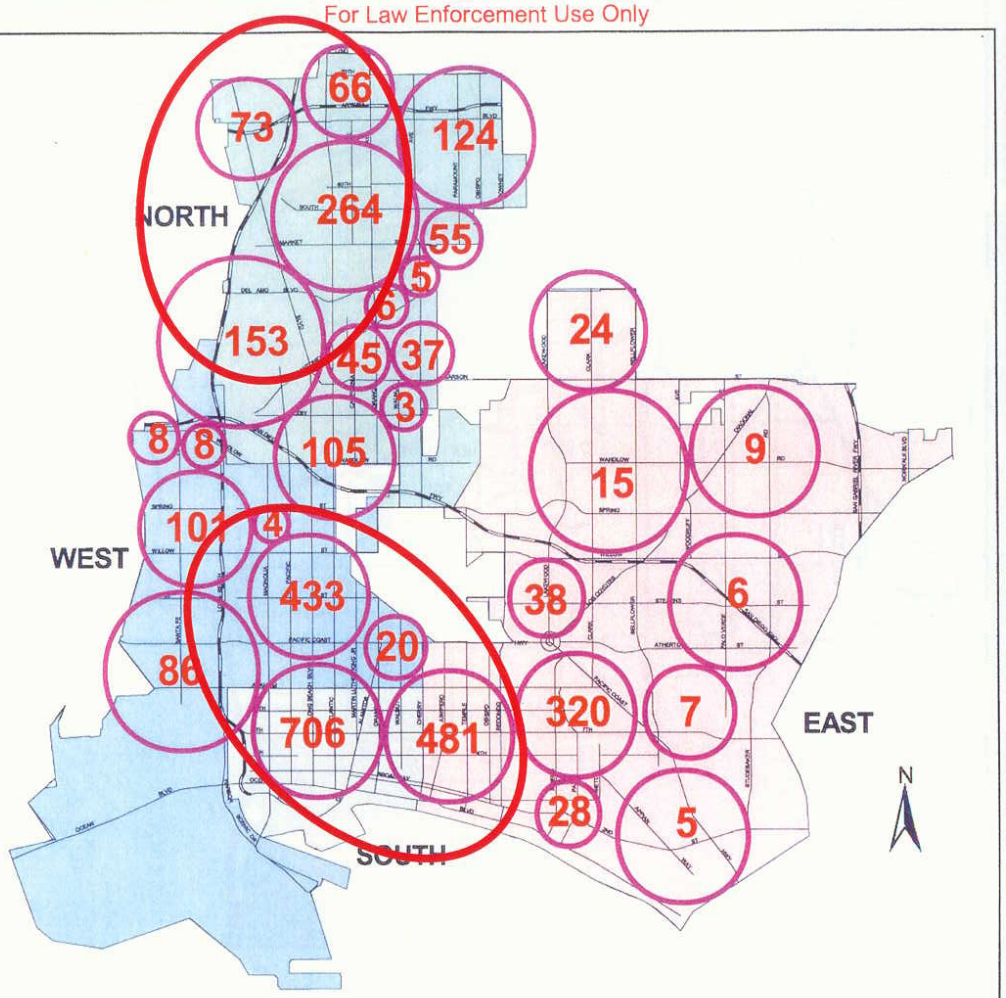
North (936) approx
West (660) approx
South (706) approx
East (933) approx

3,235 parolees are displayed on map

***Source: Parolee LEADS**

Approx. 1,500 parolees from the surrounding Cities of Signal Hill (150-200 parolees) Lakewood, Cypress, Seal Beach, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, Bellflower, Paramount, Artesia, Compton, Carson, Wilmington, Rancho Dominquez, and Los Angeles report to the Long Beach Parole Complex at 2165 E. Spring St. Some of these parolees are working, going to School (150-200 attend Long Beach City College) or visiting friends/relatives in Long Beach and are named suspects on Long Beach crime reports.

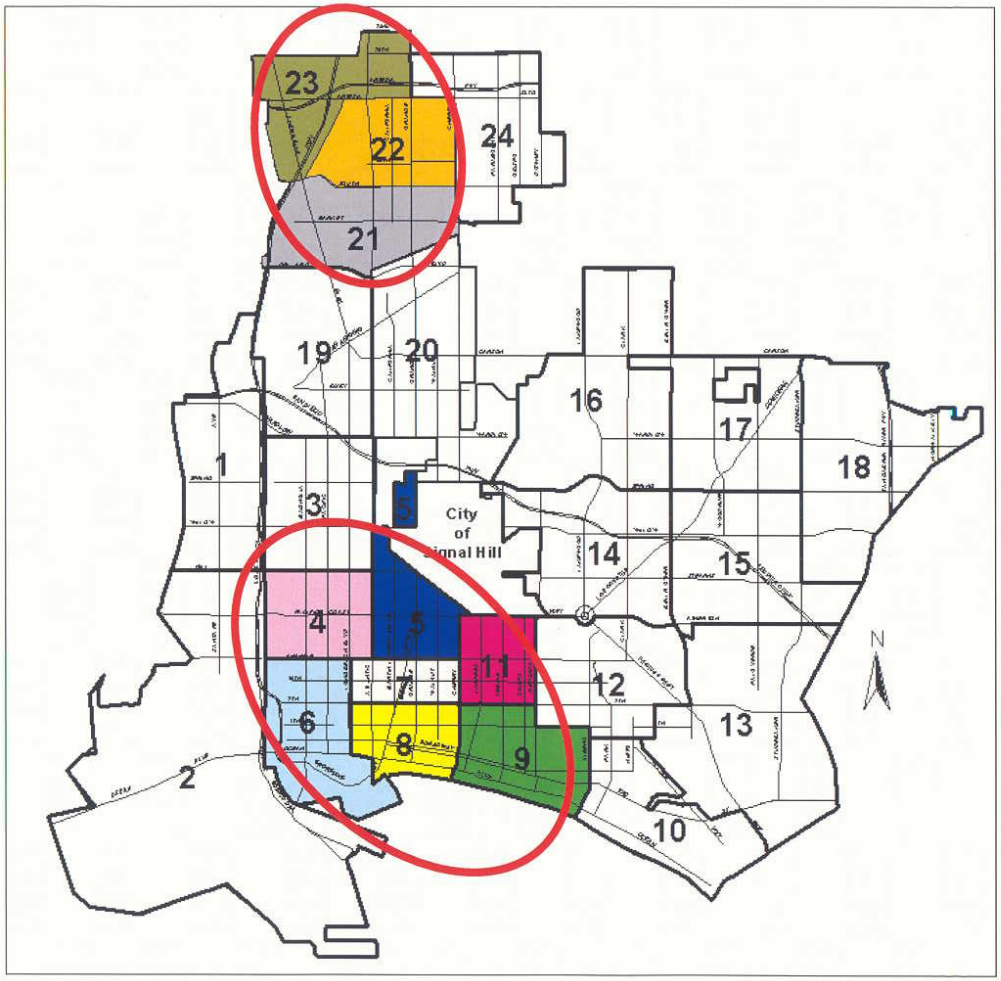
It is estimated that between 200-500 parolees live in Long Beach but report to the Santa Fe Springs Parole Office, 12940 Telegraph Rd, Santa Fe Springs and the South Bay Parole Office, 1957 E. DelAmo Blvd Compton.



By: K. McDade, Crime Analysis 05/03/02

Long Beach
Police Department

FOCUS BEATS



9 APPENDIX: I

9.1 Inventory of Youth Services

According to Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Parks, Recreation and Marine Youth Services, the City of Long Beach maintains information regarding services for all youth, including those at risk. These programs are listed in various directories, including the Youth Services NETWORK Providers Directory, the JUST ASK (After School Programs for Kids) and the Teen Yellow Pages. In addition, several brochures containing compilations of like programs have been published. A website is maintained at http://www.longbeachyouth.org, which links the reader to service agencies either alphabetically or by category of service.

Safe Passage Programs

F.O.C.U.S. at Franklin Middle School (Franklin Observing Cultures and Uniting Students)
Franklin Family Watch Coalition
Mothers' Brigade (serving the Edison Elementary School neighborhood)

Mentoring Programs for At-Risk Youth

Long Beach Youth Services – Mentoring Opportunities in Long Beach brochure:
"Volunteer to Become a Mentor" – all local programs listed
(A subcommittee of the Long Beach Youth Services NETWORK)

- American Association of University Women
- Pacific Rim Academy
- Athletes & Entertainers for Kids
- Catholic Big Brothers & Big Sisters
- Club More (The Guidance Center)
- Long Beach BLAST
- Mentoring a Touch from Above
- Operation Jump Start
- St. Mary's Little Sisters Program

Diversity Education

National Conference for Community Justice (NCCJ)

Arts and Music Appreciation

Parks, Recreation & Marine's Mural Arts Program
African Cultural Center

Burbank Bailadores & Aguilares
Long Beach Families United Performing Arts Learning & Counseling Center
Philippine Artists & Cultural Guild
Pan African Art
Homeland Cultural Center
Cambodian Art Preservation Programs
Museum of Latin American Art
Long Beach Museum Art

Dramatic Results

Danza Azteca Cuauhtemoc

Youth Recreation & Diversion Programs

Parks, Recreation & Marine Department:

- Teen Centers (See above – Citywide)
- Youth Sports Programs (Citywide)
- Roller Hockey
- Skate parks and skate plazas
- Skatepark on Wheels
- Mobile Recreation Programs (NIS areas)
- After School Programs (11 sites)
- Weekend Recreation Supervision (12 sites)
- Day and Aquatic Caps
- Gang Intervention & Prevention
- Attitude Crew (Community Service)
- Midnight Basketball
- Jr. Golf Programs
- Various special interest classes

Long Beach Police Department:
Police Athletic League (PAL) Facilities (3 locations)
Boy Scouts of America
Girl Scout Council of Greater Long Beach
Camp Fire USA
Boys and Girls Clubs of Long Beach
Youth Opportunity Center
Youth Leadership Long Beach
CORAL Youth Leadership Institute
The Guidance Center
Interval House
Ameri-I-Can Foundation for Social Change
NCADD – Women to Women – Positive Choices

SHORTSTOP - Long Beach Bar Foundation
Substances Abuse Foundation – Pacific Avenue Resource Center (PARC)

Department of Health & Human Services – Youth Health Education:

- MAGIC (Men Achieving Goals in Communities)
- OSITA (Our Sisters Increasing Their AIDs Awareness)
- PATHS (Peer Advocating Teaching Healthy Solutions)
- STARS (Students Together Resisting Substances)
- NOSOTROS (HIV Education for young Latino Men)
- SAFE (Sexual Abstinence/Awareness Family Education)
- TLC (Teens Living Carefully)
- CHAP (Community Health Action Project)
- CGC (Community Challenge Grant)
- CAPP (Chlamydia Awareness Prevention Program)

Outreach to Avert Violence or Retaliation

Parks, Recreation & Marine Department:

- Gang Intervention & Prevention Program (GIPP)
- Park Ranger Program

Long Beach Unified School District's School Safety & Emergency Preparation
-- Gang Violence Suppression Team
Su Casa Teen Outreach Program
Girls & Boys Town
Casa Youth Shelter
Childnet Youth & Family Services
Friends Outside
Federal Job Corps
Erase the Past
Amer-I-Can Foundation for Social Change

10 APPENDIX: J

Recommendation for a Youth Serving Framework: Commission on Children and Youth, the Youth Advisory Council, and the Youth Services NETWORK, as developed Cynthia Fogg, Youth Services Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine, dated November 1, 2002.

Recommendation for a Youth Serving Framework

Commission on Children and Youth
Youth Advisory Council
Youth Services NETWORK

Background:

The City of Long Beach has, over the past 10 years, made a significant effort to enhance its focus on the well being of its children and youth population. In 1996, the City developed its first Youth Service Status report, identifying over $11 million in general fund dollars designated to programs for children and youth. An effort to identify the contribution made by the other public agencies and the private non-profit sector resulted in the establishment of a comprehensive database of services. In addition, it was concluded that attracting and leveraging resources was important in meeting the needs of Long Beach's children and that a variety of service areas are critical to the well being of our youth population.

In early 1998, and subsequent to the appointment of a citywide youth services coordinator, an initial step was taken to develop a citywide network of departments, agencies and individuals dedicated to implementing comprehensive, collaborative and integrated services for children and youth in the Long Beach area. Since its inception, the Long Beach Youth Services NETWORK has engaged both public and private youth serving organizations in youth related education, focusing on initiatives and mandates and providing a forum for clarifying perceptions and expectations among and between city agencies and the community. The effort to create the NETWORK responded to recommendations made by several existing committees and boards, one in particular, the Human Relations Commission. In the Commissions Final Report to the Mayor and City Council on Interracial Gang Violence, dated April 18, 1995, the commission calls for the City to "support efforts for various agencies/providers to network, share information, resources and strengthen funding possibilities." Over the past 4 years, participation in the NETWORK has grown to over 240 individuals and organizations and serves as a forum for those who consider youth a priority in the community. With the creation of an oversight committee and staffed by the Youth Services Superintendent, based in the Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine, the Youth Services NETWORK and its Executive Planning Committee serves as link to a variety of youth service categories and services, and has created a stronger recognition that citywide

youth needs are interdependent and cannot be dealt with in isolation from each other.

Later that year, as the Long Beach Strategic Plan identified its priorities, the Education and Youth Task Force began its effort, which would ultimately confirm that a continued emphasis on our focus on youth should remain a citywide priority and should be given oversight at the highest level.

Over the next few years, the City of Long Beach maintained its focus on children and youth through the ongoing work of the NETWORK, the Executive Planning Committee; the publication of several citywide youth service directories and guides, the appointment of a citywide child care coordinator, the enhancement of the workforce development effort regarding older youth and teens and other notable efforts focused on children and youth. Using the premises contained in the Strategic Plan for Education and Youth, the City continued to provide leadership in facilitating communication and encouraging dialogue among and between youth service providers.

Implementation of a commission

As part of the strategic planning process, the Education and Youth Task Force set forth to identify specific areas of youth service requiring an ongoing focus and to develop goals and objectives. In order to ensure that the recommended strategies in those areas would be monitored, the committee recommended the formation of a city commission on youth. Strategic Action Y1.1 recommends: *the formation of a commission with key representatives of the youth-serving community charged with monitoring the well being of youth in each of the areas addressed by the Strategic Plan and with creating a Youth Scorecard.* In February 2002, Mayor O'Neill met with key representatives of the Executive Planning Committee, youth advocates, the Education and Youth Task Force committee chairperson, and representatives of the city council offices. The consensus for the concept of formalizing a youth commission included the following points:

- Avoid *duplication* of current efforts and representation.
- Create a link to policy makers and legislators on behalf of children and youth and those who serve them.
- The absence of a defined, committee or counsel *comprised of youth participants* is a gap in the current youth service structure.
- The formalization of a commission as recommended in the strategic plan should be *done concurrently with* the formation of a youth driven advisory council.

The task of assimilating a recommendation from the February meeting was assigned to the Youth Services Superintendent, with input from the Executive Planning Committee.

The consensus of the Executive Planning Committee representatives was as follows: First, that the commission should build upon the existing infrastructure, and that formalization would require dedicated staff whose authority to work with the existing bodies would be enhanced. Secondly, that a council should be structured *of youth* to provide a vehicle for youth input, opinion and involvement in City decision-making that affects youth. These opinions supports Goal Y1.3 of the Education and Youth Strategic Plan, 2010, which recommends "*increasing the City's budget to allocate additional staff dedicated to effective coordination* of youth *programs and services*; *increasing authority to enhance the ability of city staff to work with non-city organizations and to provide leadership development opportunities by increasing youth involvement in planning."*

Research and Findings

Throughout the course of the research and analysis of the recommendation to create a youth commission, several municipal models were identified. Of particular interest and similarity to the framework proposed for the City of Long Beach, is the City of Los Angeles's *Commission on Children, Youth and Their Families (CY*F). Established in 1995 by ordinance, the CYF acts as a focal point within the City of Los Angeles to coordinate and evaluate efforts to serve the City's children, youth and their families. Volunteer commissioners, one of whom is a youth member under the age of 18, are supported by a substantial staff of professionals to work with City departments to enhance their programs, advise the Mayor and City Council on policy issues related to children, youth and their families, annually review and update the City's legislative policy regarding children, youth and family issues; and listen to and advocate for children and families both within the City infrastructure and in the community. Governed by a vision, planning principles, guidelines for a family friendly city, long term outcomes, and desired short term results, the CYF is committed to the task of building genuine collaboration among public and private sector agencies and community based organizations. *

Over the past decade, an investment and prioritization of the City's role in providing services to children and youth, as well it's effort to facilitate and coordinate citywide services at several levels, has effected a better connected community of service providers. The appointment of a citywide youth services coordinator, the appointment of a child care coordinator and the increased efforts dedicated to coordinating older youth job readiness in support of workforce development and gang intervention and prevention have proven essential to the community. The dedication of a portion of the City's Strategic Planning process to Education and Youth, as well as other public forums have continually reinforced the need and support for enhancing service delivery. The outcome is apparent in a better-connected community of children, youth and older youth service providers However, current issues facing us require a renewed commitment to bring about change and to promote measurable improvements in the lives of Long Beach children, youth and their families. The 2002 census indicates that there are over 140,000 youth under the age of 18 living in Long Beach, with the largest age cohert being children age 5 through 9. The data also reveals that approximately 27% of the children under the age of 17 are living at or below poverty level; the 1 in 3 ratio is currently higher than the County of Los Angeles as a whole. At any given time,

approximately 4,000 foster youth reside in the Long Beach area. Annually, approximately 280 of those foster youth transition out of foster care, with limited transitional services available to them, nor adequate housing options. According to the California Department of Education, the number of children and youth enrolled in Long Beach public schools who qualify for free or reduced lunch stands at 68%. The same agency reports that within an enrollment of over 97,000 students, the ethnic distribution indicates Hispanic/Latino youth make up 45%; African American make up 20% and White (not-Hispanic accounting for 18% of the population and Asian 12%, creating a significant challenge in implementing services which are grounded in the culture, values and experience of their community. What is needed is a renewed emphasis on creating a complex network of supports for families, children and youth, a shift from creating programs to solving problems, as well as the development of mechanisms to hold accountable the actions of individuals, agencies and organizations that must work together on behalf of children and youth.

Youth Involvement

Solving problems and planning services to enhance services affecting youth has been done, to a large extent without the input of youth themselves. In 1998 a survey instrument soliciting input from 7th, 9th and 10th graders was included as a component of the community scan, preceded the effort to develop a citywide strategic plan. Currently, however, no formal body of youth representatives exists to promote existing programs, to identify the need for new programs, or to substantiate the involvement of young people in the City's governmental process. The *California League Of Cities* hosts a youth track at its annual conferences, attended by several hundred youth commissioners from around the state. *According to the National League of Cities' Institute for Youth, Education and Families*, appointing youth councils are an effective way to get youth more involved in solving local problems and more actively engaged in their community. By connecting youth in this manner, they can be recognized as assets and resources with fresh ideas and perspectives into the local decision making process. The stakeholders polled for input on the creation of a commission indicated that maintaining a focus on youth must include the active engagement of young people in representing local government.

Children and Youth Scorecard

The recommendation to create a report card dedicated to the well-being of Long Beach children and youth came to be based upon the need to track how children and youth are impacted by various programs and services. The Education and Youth task force, when faced with how to achieve the vision for children and youth adopted by the City Council along with the Strategic Plan 2010, envisioned a scorecard which would provide a baseline measurement of the well-being of Long Beach children, and a system to assess indicators, or measures which could be tracked in the future. This scorecard concept is utilized by other regional and municipal organizations, including the Los Angeles County

Children's Planning Council, (CPC) a public/private planning body formed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors with eight established geographically based bodies called Service Planning Area (SPA) Councils. As a part of the strategy to improve children's well-being, the CPC adopted five outcome areas of well-being which were then approved by the County Board of Supervisors in 1993. In December of 2001, the CPC created the Data Partnership, responsible for the CPC's bi-annual *Children's Scorecard*, is designed to help collect and analyze data which can be used to assure program accountability and effectiveness. Recently these outcome areas have been adopted by other organizations and governmental entities in the Los Angeles area, including the Los Angeles Commission on Children, Youth and Their Families. The outcome areas are:

- **Good health**
- **Safety and survival**
- **Economic well-being**
- **Social and emotional well-being**
- **Education and workforce readiness**

These broad outcome areas focus on the sate of children and youth, rather than on the state of the department or organization providing the service. Virtually all of the goals of the City's Education & Youth Strategic Plan can be adapted to these measurements of well-being. By adopting the same five outcome areas as an expression of child and youth well-being, Long Beach could benefit from the data collected and analyzed by the Data Partnership and continue to work as a partner in SPA 8, within the countywide planning structure. The data could be retrieved to plan services and programs by Long Beach council district based on available data. Dedicated staff on the City level, or the contracting out of this effort would require additional funding, but is a key component of oversight.

The following is recommended:

- **Commission on Children and Youth** The commission called for in Goal Y1.1 of the Education & Youth Strategic Plan should be implemented by formalizing, by ordinance, the existing infrastructure of the Youth Services NETWORK's Executive Planning Committee (EPC). A model for the establishment of this commission can be found in Division 8, Chapter 23 of the City of Los Angeles' City Charter; Special Authorities, Agencies, Boards and Commissions. This committee should be renamed the ***City Commission on Children and Youth (CCY).*** It is recommended that, similar to the CYF model, commissioners should be residents of the City and not employees of the City and should be chosen based on their specific expertise representing a specified category of professional service and/or policy development related to children and youth. One member should be at the policy-making level within the Long Beach Unified School District and two members should be under the age of 19 at the time of appointment, and should also be members of the Youth Advisory Council outlined below. Further details as to membership, category of appointments, terms of office, appointment of officers and committees can be developed

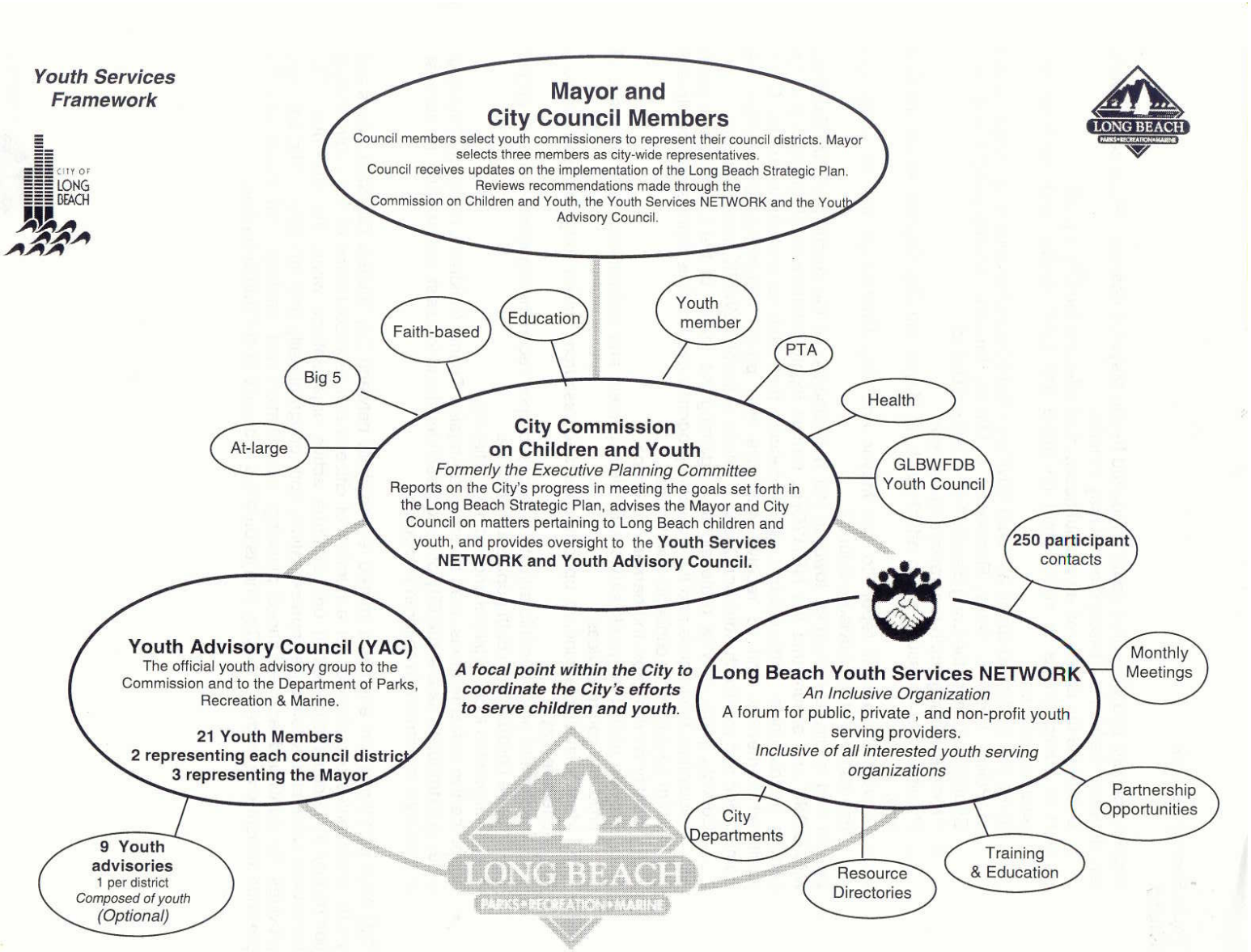
utilizing the referenced model and with input from selected city staff. Purposes, powers and duties of the commission may include:

- Advise the Mayor and Council of the needs, concerns, and problems of children and youth.
- Periodically review the City's Child Care Policy and develop other policies as appropriate.
- Convene City Departments and agencies on a regular basis to coordinate their programs in a comprehensive system which avoids duplication and improves outcomes for children and youth. An agreed regularity of meetings should occur with a minimum of the following City Manager Departments: Parks, Recreation & Marine, Community Development (both Neighborhood Services and Greater Long Beach Workforce Development Board's Youth Opportunity Center), Police, Fire, Library, and Health and Human Services.
- Convene a joint meeting of the Commission with the Youth Council at an agreed upon regularity.
- Promote coordination between the City, Long Beach Unified School District, other county, state and national associations, and community organizations,
- Develop, analyze and maintain data related to Long Beach children and youth.
- Provide assistance to City departments, other governmental entities and community organizations on issues relating to children and youth.
- Submit an annual report on Commission activities to the Mayor and City Council at the end of each fiscal year.
- Recognize outstanding contributions or accomplishments on behalf of Long Beach children and youth.

- **Youth Advisory Council** The Commission on Children and Youth, should establish a youth advisory council and other mechanisms and support as necessary and appropriate to provide for youth participation in City processes. Each member of the City Council shall appoint two (2) people to the ***Youth Advisory Council (YAC)***, who shall be under the age of 19 at appointment and who will serve, with the exception of those appointments to the Commission, as non-voting associate members of the Commission. The Youth Advisory Council may make recommendations to the Commission on policy issues and meet jointly with the Commission at an agreed upon regularity. The Youth Advisory Council members should be members of existing council district internal youth advisory groups, or be appointed individually by the council members. A structure and format for formation of internal district advisory councils, as well as methods for appointing advisors will be developed and provided to each council member. Members should be between the ages of 14-19, representing each of the nine City Council districts, and with three youth appointed by the Mayor, if desired. Purposes, powers, and duties of the Youth Advisory Council may include:

    - Determine the issues, on an annual basis, most affecting the City's youth.
    - Hold public forums to solicit input on those and other issues, and solutions and recommendations
    - Invite key leaders to speak at Youth Advisory Council meetings including: Mayor, Chief of Police, Director, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Director, Library Department, and Superintendent of the Long Beach Unified School District.
    - Promote existing youth programs and services
    - Provide input on issues which affect youth, to Mayor and City Council, as well as City staff
    - Provide an annual report to the Mayor and City Council on the activities and impressions of the Advisory Council.
- Uphold and dedicate resources towards the maintenance of the existing ***Youth Services NETWORK*** and ensure that the NETWORK remain highly inclusive of all interested youth serving professionals, organizations, and agencies that wish to participate in the City's facilitated framework and to receive guidance and policy recommendations from the Commission and the Youth Advisory Council. Efforts of the NETWORK should include:
    - Educate youth service professionals regarding the profile of the Long Beach youth population, their needs and the available programs and services, specialty subjects and youth development concepts and trends.
    - Identify service gaps and barriers to service.
    - Provide access to youth services by development and maintenance of a database of child and youth services.
    - Identify available funding opportunities and resources which may be used in more effective ways
    - Implement programmatic adjustments based upon recommendations on current and/or future children and youth population changes
    - Respond to local, regional and national initiatives
- Adopt the five outcome areas used by the Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council in order to extrapolate data at the City of Long Beach level and to assist in assessing the success of the City's investment in children and youth.

This three-part framework ensures a shared responsibility between City leaders, City staff, adults and youth, and creates opportunities for a number of citizens and representatives of the youth serving community to become engaged in one of three active organizations within the structure. The framework will mandate effective representation, both geographically and topically. The structure provides for continued and enhanced planning, coordination and tracking, and maximizes the previous investments made by the City and its partners in service to children and youth.


Youth Services Framework
CITY OF LONG BEACH
Mayor and City Council Members
Council members select youth commissioners to represent their council districts. Mayor selects three members as city-wide representatives.
Council receives updates on the implementation of the Long Beach Strategic Plan.
Reviews recommendations made through the Commission on Children and Youth, the Youth Services NETWORK and the Youth Advisory Council.
LONG BEACH
PARKS • RECREATION • MARINE
Faith-based
Education
Youth member
PTA
Big 5
Health
At-large
GLBWFDB Youth Council
City Commission on Children and Youth
Formerly the Executive Planning Committee
Reports on the City's progress in meeting the goals set forth in the Long Beach Strategic Plan, advises the Mayor and City Council on matters pertaining to Long Beach children and youth, and provides oversight to the Youth Services NETWORK and Youth Advisory Council.
250 participant contacts
Youth Advisory Council (YAC)
The official youth advisory group to the Commission and to the Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine.
21 Youth Members
2 representing each council district
3 representing the Mayor
A focal point within the City to coordinate the City's efforts to serve children and youth.
Long Beach Youth Services NETWORK
An Inclusive Organization
A forum for public, private , and non-profit youth serving providers.
Inclusive of all interested youth serving organizations
Monthly Meetings
Partnership Opportunities
City Departments
Resource Directories
Training & Education
9 Youth advisories
1 per district
Composed of youth
(Optional)
LONG BEACH
PARKS • RECREATION • MARINE

11 APPENDIX: K

Examples of Targeted Actions (from the framework developed by Dr. Karen Umemoto, Ph.D., University of Hawaii at Manoa, entitled "Planning for Peace: Developing a Strategic Response to Racial Violence," 2002):

Who's Responsible	Actions for General Population	Targeted Actions
All Groups & Individuals	Public education campaign about the problem Education campaign to promote tolerance Programs to enhance cross-group sharing Cultural activities for awareness & appreciation Community murals to reflect/celebrate diversity Distribute information booklets on harassment Declaration of "Hate-free zones/cities"	Safe gathering places Safe passage corridors Block parties to support victims Candlelight vigils and marches for peace Press conference to oppose hate activities Homework houses ("hate-free") Cross-group neighbor-to-neighbor programs
Community Groups	Community planning towards a shared vision Establish multi-cultural youth service groups Information distribution through newsletters Establish non-profit groups to address problem Educate & mobilize public around the problem Sponsor cross-cultural and educational activities Community economic development ventures Phone tree to notify groups when incidents occur	Mentoring programs for at-risk youth Educational theater promoting appreciation Arts and music programs for those at-risk Diversity education/activities for children Facilitate reconciliation between parties Youth recreation & diversion programs Violence prevention and early intervention Outreach to avert violence or retaliation
Local Government	Support the Human Relations Commission (HRC) Establish youth component to HRC Establish departmental policies & procedures to respond to the problem Facilitate strategic planning to	Language translation services for conflicts Develop anti-gang programs. Rapid Response with victim support and mediation services Peer counseling programs Support programming for youth

	address problem Compile/distribute a community resource booklet Official pronouncements and policies of inclusion Expand and enforce equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws Public space to nurture diversity & civic identity Coordinate anti-hate activities between agencies Train staff on diversity issues & hate crimes Inclusionary political campaigning Monthly diversity programs Fund bridge-building activities and infrastructure Monitor intergroup tensions Evaluate activities addressing intergroup tension	activities Coordinate at-risk youth services/activities Offer facilities for diversity related activities
Law Enforcement	Diversity training for police, probation, parole, courts and gang intervention workers Train officers to ID and respond to hate crimes Neighborhood Watch Community Policing Regular police hate crime reports to Human Dignity Program Improve hate crime reporting procedures Gang intervention information sharing networks	Early intervention with possible aggressors Hate crime hotline w/anonymous reporting Witness protection services for hate crimes Identify conflicts early via graffiti Restorative justice programs if appropriate Diversity programs for incarcerated youth Assess/counsel hate crime perpetrators Warnings to probationers and parolees Appropriate use of hate crime statutes Improved coordination between police, probation, schools & youth outreach
Schools	Student Diversity and Tolerance policy Human Relations training for school staff Parent advisory group on diversity	Conflict mediation and training Trouble-shooting team of staff College outreach & admissions programs Diversion/educational activities for

	and tolerance Curriculum reform and diversity education Student forums and commissions Student peer mediation training & program Diversity curriculum in after school programs and adult education Inclusionary cultural events/exchanges Staff conflict resolution training Diversity policy handbooks to parents College student involvement in activities University research on the problem Other university partnerships Field trips to Museum of Tolerance, etc.	"bullies"
Religious Institutions	Educational sermons promoting tolerance Religious exchange activities	Chaplain program to assist victims Provide facilities for diversity activities Outreach to at-risk population
Business Organizations, Homeowners & Landlords	Billboard campaigns Physical safety improvements Non-discriminatory practices	Partner with job training programs
External Assistance	Training, technical assistance, consultation, finding financial resources, networking with: County Human Relations Commission Grant-making foundations Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium U.S. Dept. of Justice Community Relations Svc State Attorney General's Office City Attorney's Office Department of Corrections County Probation Department and others…	
Media	News coverage of hate crime incidents	Coverage of victims' stories & experiences

	Responsible non-sensationalistic reporting Feature positive examples of human relations Humanize the problem Balanced reporting from all vantage points Publicize diversity events and related programs	

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